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## CONTENTS

DECEMBER, 1952 ✦ VOLUME XLV ✦ NUMBER 6

COVER SUBJECT:—*Winter is such fun!*
Malak photograph

Page

THE CANADIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY'S NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS IN GEOGRAPHY . . . . . III

KASHMIR . . . . . 216
*by HEDDA MORRISON*

THE WOOD-CARVER OF ST-JEAN-PORT-JOLI . . . . . 234
*by JOSEPHINE HAMBLETON DUNN*

SNOWTIME PICTORIAL . . . . . 242

THE GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD . . . . . 248
*by J. W. WATSON*

THE LONG SAULT OF THE OTTAWA . . 252
*by F. J. ALCOCK*

CANADIAN GEOGRAPHICAL JOURNAL INDEX, 1952 . . . . . V

EDITOR'S NOTE-BOOK . . . . . VII

AMONGST THE NEW BOOKS . . . . . VIII

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*Shepherds taking their flock home in the evening. It is getting cool and they are warmly clad in woollen blankets.*

# Kashmir

Photographs and notes by HEDDA MORRISON

ON MOST ATLASES Kashmir is shown as a massive section of what used to be northwestern India. Yet Kashmir proper, the Vale of Kashmir, is a relatively small area surrounded by a number of other regions which have been tacked on to it by various historical conquests and accidents.

The Vale, the beauty and wealth of which attracted invaders and visitors for hundreds of years, is about 80 miles long and 20 miles wide, where the valley of the Jhelum sprawls lazily across a lush countryside. The Vale and the valleys running into it are inhabited by a very distinctive people. The balance of what is shown on the map as being part of the State of Kashmir is quite different.



In the south is the Dogra (Hindu) State of Jammu which in the early nineteenth century conquered Thibetan Ladakh to the northeast. After the conclusion of the Sikh war in 1846, the British conquerors awarded the whole of Kashmir to the Dogra Maharajah, more to punish the Sikhs than because he had any real claim to the country. Other individual areas are Poonch in the west, really part of the Punjab, and Gilgit in the northwest which is a piece of Central Asia.

It must not be thought that the Vale of Kashmir is the only attractive part of what was the State of Kashmir but when people talk of the beauties of Kashmir they generally mean the Vale, the enchanting contrast of lake and mountain, of a rich agricultural area overhung by pine forests and beautiful alpine valleys. The Vale is temperate, lying at an altitude of 5,000 feet, and the climate is a splendid one, particularly in the early summer and autumn.

Kashmir has had an uneasy history. Except for an early period it has never been able to maintain its independence; and its people, perhaps because of the riches of the country, are one of the least martial races in Asia. Though physically well built, and strong and hard workers, they are a timid folk conditioned by hundreds of years of passive acceptance of oppression. About 250 B.C. there was a period of Buddhist supremacy when the country came under the sway of the great Asoka. Then came a period of Hindu influence which extended to the early fourteenth century. This was the only time in the history of Kashmir when the country was ruled by Kashmiris. Hindu culture reached a high level and there are still to be seen massive remnants of immense Hindu temples. In the early fourteenth

*View over Dal Lake. The poplar-studded landscape is typical of Kashmir. Other abundant trees are willows and planes, the latter growing to a great size.*





*A number of beautiful valleys open into the Vale of Kashmir, the garden of the Indian subcontinent. Typical of these is the Liddar valley, shown here, on the way to the Sacred Lake of Amarnath.*

century Kashmir came under Muslim domination and remained so until the early part of the nineteenth century. While some of the Muslim rulers were enlightened, in general it was a time of oppression and hardship. Most of the population were forcibly converted to Islam, though a high caste Brahmin minority never submitted and maintained the faith of their ancestors. Mr. Nehru traces his own descent from such a family.

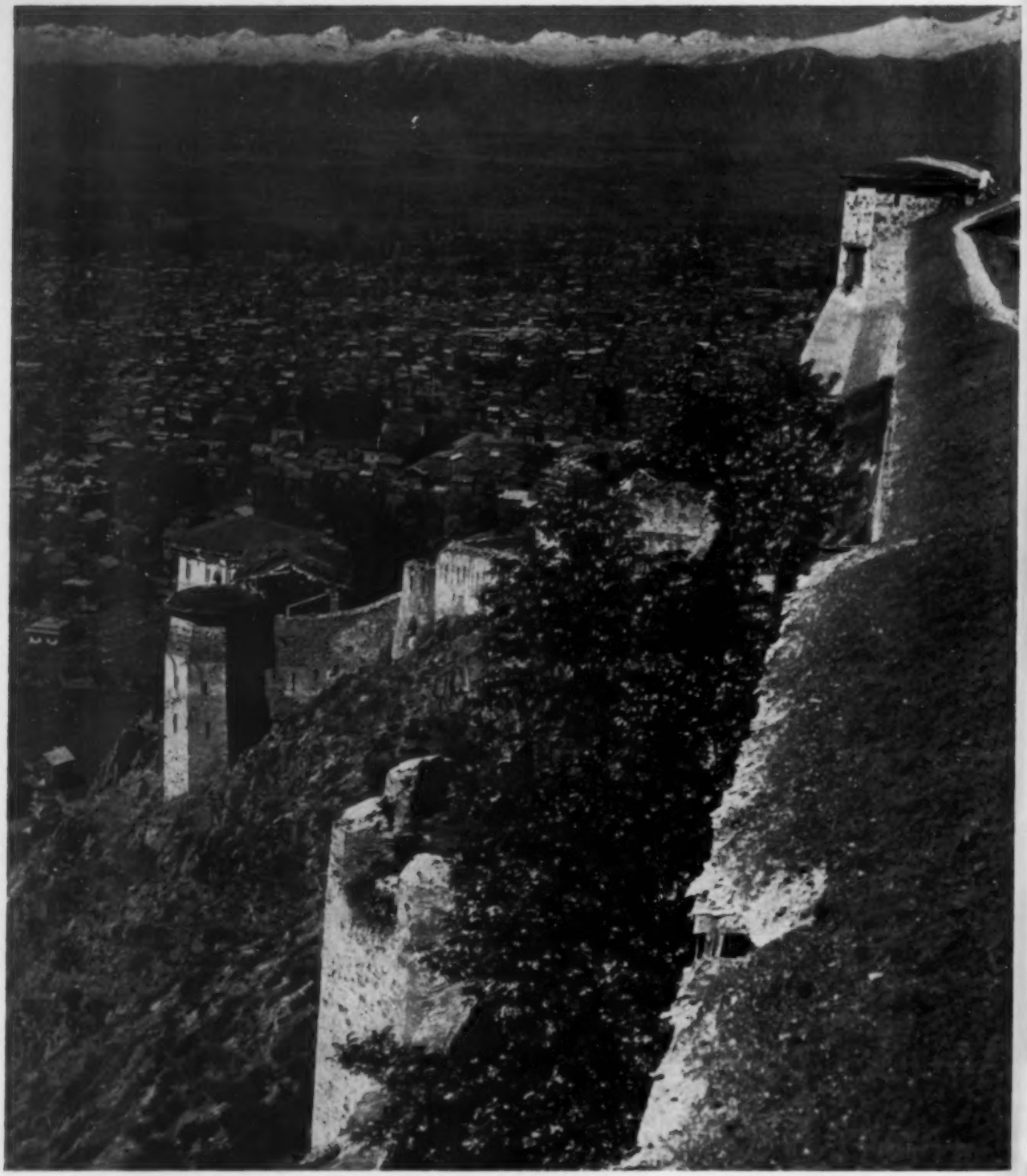
During the seventeenth century Kashmir became the pleasure resort of the Moguls who built many exquisite gardens there. Finally at the beginning of the nineteenth century the militant Sikhs conquered Kashmir and imposed one of the harshest and most oppressive regimes the country had ever known. The Dogra ruler of Jammu succeeded the Sikh rulers and he in his turn has now given way to the democratic government of Sheikh Abdullah. It is not intended here to discuss the present dispute between India and Pakistan on the future of Kashmir except to mention that the entire Vale of Kashmir is occupied by India.

The Kashmiris are a peculiarly gifted and artistic people. For generations they have specialized in the production of handicrafts: carpets, rugs, embroideries, silks, wood carving, and papier mâché show the high degree of skill they have attained. Very beautiful work is done and it is an odd fact that most of the work is done by the men, even such work as embroidery which might be thought to be the preserve of the women. In addition, the Kashmiris are industrious cultivators and have a highly developed system of padi irrigation. A great variety of vegetables thrive in the valley and the shallow lakes provide a never ending source of fertilizer in the form of water weeds which are systematically collected for that purpose.

Anyone who has ever visited Kashmir will agree that it is one of the most favoured and beautiful countries in the world. It is tragic that today, instead of being the world's playground, it should instead be a virtual battlefield between two of the most advanced and vigorous of the young democracies of Asia.



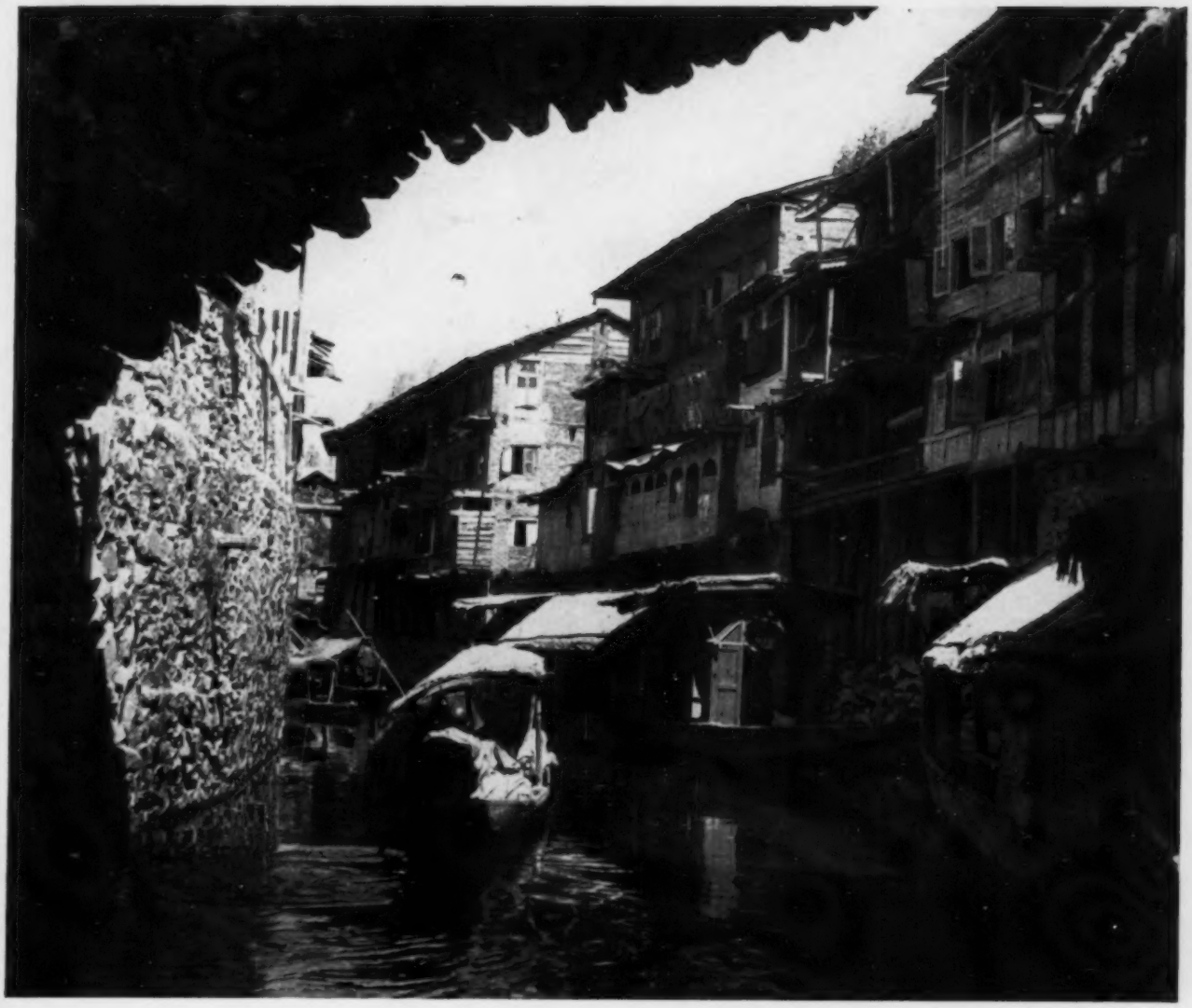
*The natural outlet for Kashmir is down the Jhelum valley to Rawalpindi in Pakistan. This route has been interrupted ever since the Kashmir troubles started in 1947 and the gateway today is the Banihal pass, 9,000 feet high, on the way to Jammu and Pathankot, the present railhead in India. This is a spectacular mountain road which is closed for several months in the winter by snow. Apart from the Banihal, all transport to India is by air.*



*View of Srinagar, the capital of Kashmir, looking west from the ramparts of Hari Parbat, the fort of Srinagar. In the mountains to be seen in the background lies the delightful resort of Gulmarg.*

*Top right:—Part of old Srinagar on the Mar canal. Much of the charm of the town lies in its many waterways and movement is generally by means of the comfortable* shikara *as the boat in the foreground is called.*

*Right:—A group of pious women gather before Srinagar's largest mosque on a Friday, the day of prayer.*



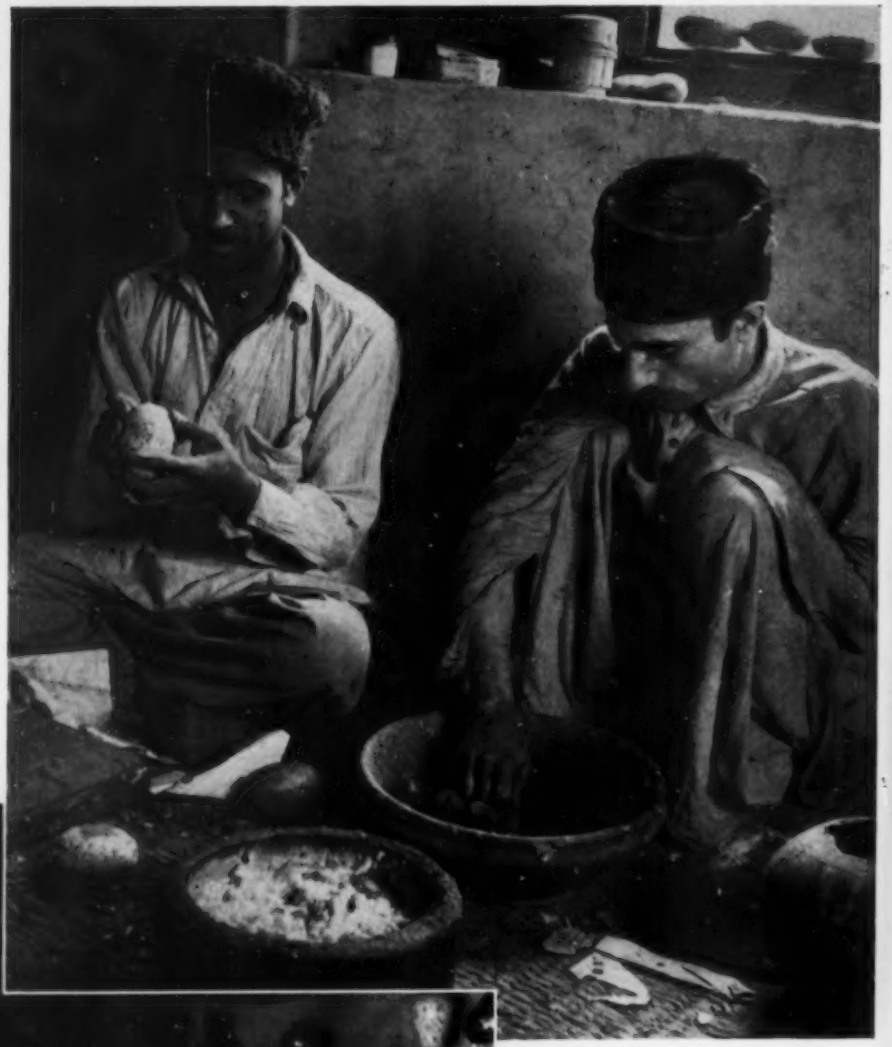




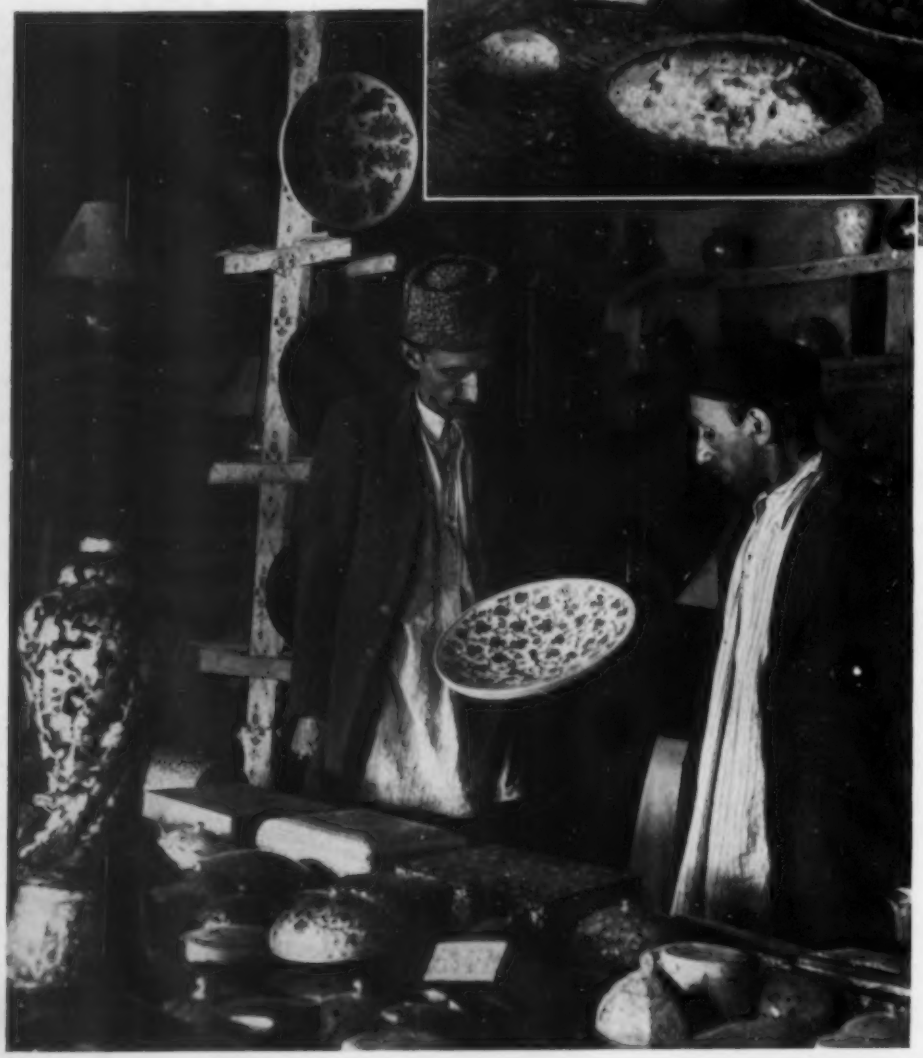
*Neighbours gossip on the road. Kashmiri women are not kept in seclusion but enjoy a considerable degree of personal freedom and go about unveiled.*



*The* hookah *or water pipe, popular in Kashmir, is a smoking pipe with a long, flexible stem. Smoke is drawn through water in the base, to which a tube and bowl are attached.*



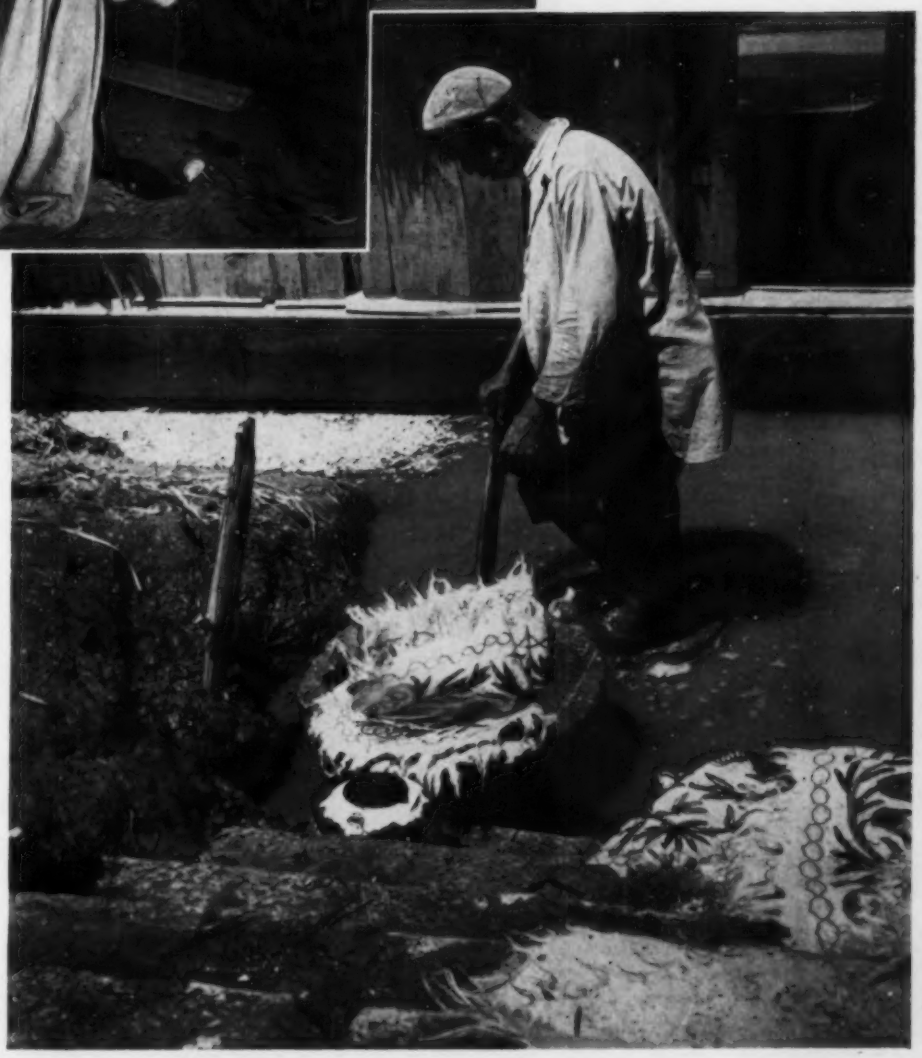
*View in a papier mâché workshop. Bowls, vases and boxes are made from a mixture of waste paper pulp and rice flour. Layers of this wet pulp are put on a mould and allowed to dry. In the case of bowls the papier mâché is cut off the mould and the sections rejoined with glue. Coats of varnish are applied and the article painted.*



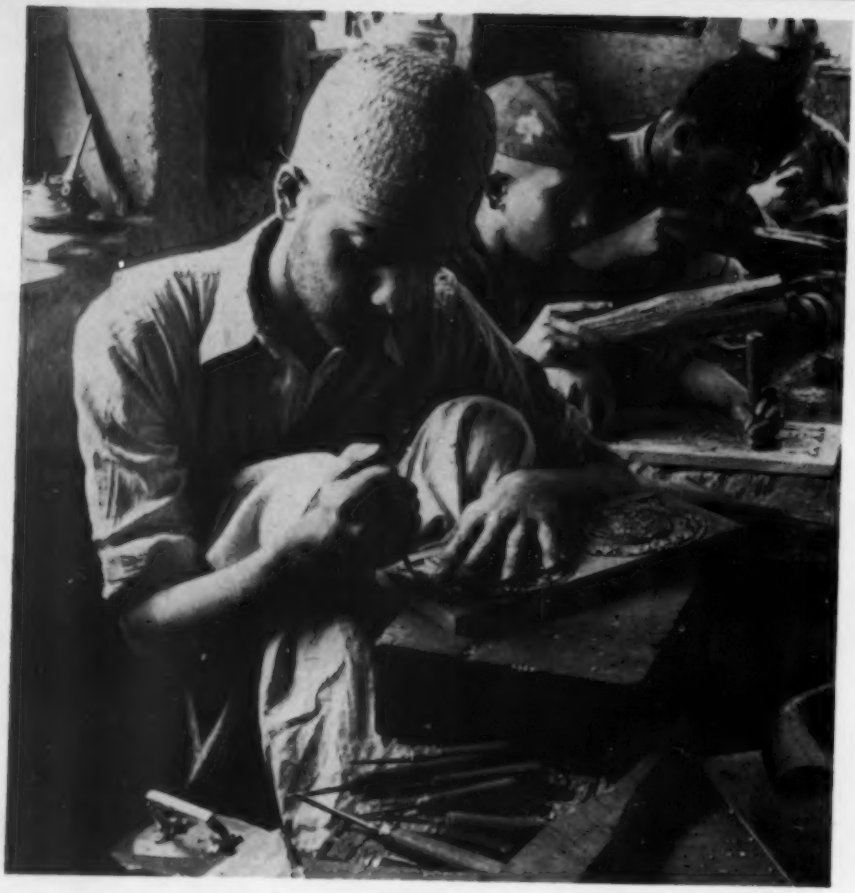
*These papier mâché articles are on sale in the shop of a dealer who calls himself "Cheap John". Traders specialize in unconventional names. Another, of excellent repute, calls himself "The Worst" and perhaps the best known is "Suffering Moses", a title he chose when he first heard the expression from an American who was startled by a price quoted.*



*Carpet weaving is an important Kashmir industry. The weavers produce designs of their own, mostly flower and leaf patterns, and also make excellent copies of Persian and other types of carpets. The wool is grown locally or brought in from Turkestan and natural dyes are used.*



Gabhas *are a local specialty, made from the leftovers from carpet manufacture, respun and felted into rugs. They are either embroidered or have flower designs stitched on. Here are* gabhas *being washed. When dried they are ready for sale, a cheap and attractive substitute for real carpets.*







*Top left:—The well- inc wood-carving. The roo used is walnut whi abundance. The wor for some tastes, but her about the skill of the*

*Centre: — Kashmir pro quality honey. The bee earthenware jar with each end. It is let into of the farm build ng, set against a hole in t while the inner ope here, is sealed with sto end the honey is extra*

*Top right: — This om shows Kashmiri rom padi. The rice produce is of excellent qual*

*Left: — Elaborately mbr such as these are sed medans in other arts as well as in Kash mir.*

*Right: — The float ng g feature of the lakes oun They have a frame work which decaying veget Such plants as melo and cucumbers grow these mobile plat orms*





The well- known Kashmir
ving. The wood generally
walnut which grows in
ce. The work is too intricate
astes, but there is no doubt
skill of the carvers.

Kashmir produces good
ney. The beehive is a large
are jar with openings at
It is let into the adobe wall
m build ng, one opening
t a hole n the outer wall,
e inner pening, shown
led with stopper. From this
oney is xtracted.

— This omestic scene
shmiri omen pounding
rice pro uced in Kashmir
ellent uality.

borately mbroidered caps
ese are ued by Moham-
other arts of the world
in Kash ir.

e floati g gardens are a
e lakes ound Srinagar.
a frame work of reeds on
caying egetation is piled.
nts as elons, tomatoes
mbers row luxuriantly on
le plat orms.



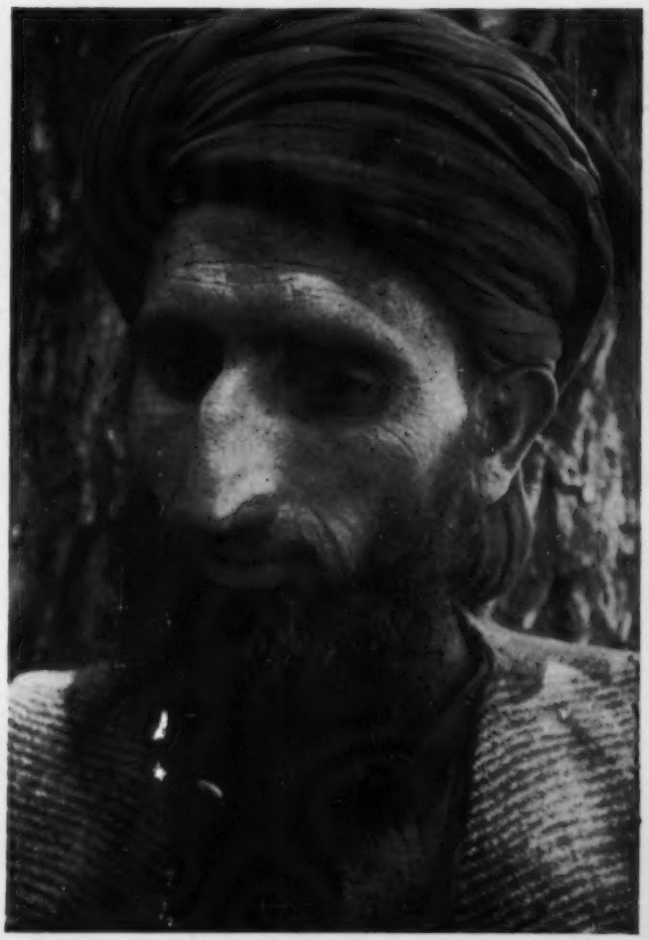


*Most Kashmiris have rather prominent, beaked noses. The women often wear heavy silver jewellery and earrings and dress their hair in elaborate braids. They are tall, well-built people. Usually their eyes are brown but sometimes they are startlingly blue.*















*The massive and impressive ruins of a Hindu temple built in the fifth century at Martand. Buddhist and then Hindu cultures prevailed in Kashmir until the thirteenth century when iconoclastic Muslim rulers usurped power. Before the country became part of the Mogul Empire one of the Mohammedan rulers who reigned about the close of the fourteenth century achieved renown for his destruction of Hindu temples, that at Martand being one of the victims.*

*Opposite page:—The great Mogul Emperors, who took over the country in the late sixteenth century, loved Kashmir and beautified it with many enchanting gardens, in which running water and fountains are the central theme. In some cases the gardens were built round natural springs, in other cases the water was brought from great distances to the gardens. These are the well-tended Nishat Bagh gardens, where the fountains play on Sundays.*



*Two hillmen relax. The woollen cloak is customary wearing apparel.*



*The Jhelum River meanders through*



*Kashmiri porters await custom at the bus stop en route to Gulmarg to which they carry passengers' baggage on their backs. Gulmarg, a hill-station once popular with Europeans, is about 3,000 feet higher than the Vale itself and cannot be reached by motor transport.*



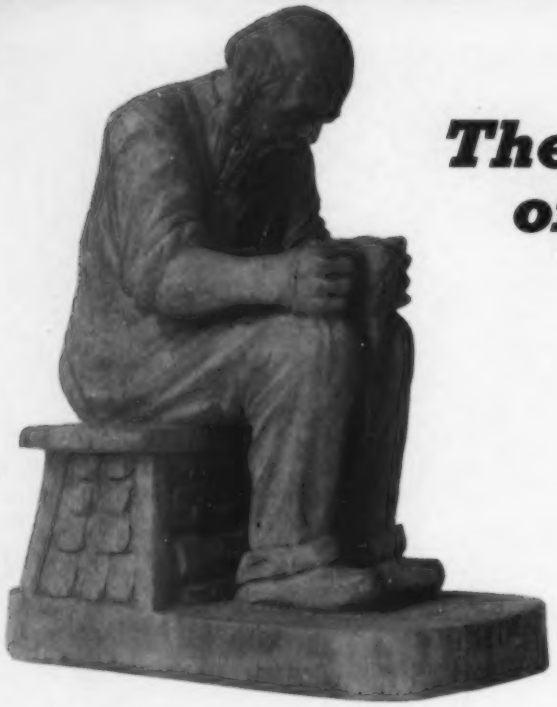
*s through e sheep country of the Vale.*



*The wife and child of a herdsman.*

*As summer advances the herdsmen work their way up the valleys in search of fresh pasture. They have herds of cattle, buffaloes, sheep, and goats, which provide meat, hides, wool and milk — an important item in Kashmiri diet. The exceptionally fine, soft wool of the goats is made into cashmere shawls.*





# The Wood-Carver of St-Jean-Port-Joli

*by*

Josephine Hambleton Dunn

Photographs by Marius Barbeau for the National Museum.

*Médard Bourgault carves the people and scenes of his native St-Jean-Port-Joli: this old shoemaker makes and mends day in and day out, for the habitants. Notice the fire-logs stacked beneath his stool.*

ALONG THE SOUTH SHORE of the St. Lawrence River, on the main highway from Quebec City to the Gaspé, land, climate and people evoke sunny, traditional France: the France of mist-girt monasteries, artisans' shops and of old, cream stone châteaux standing amongst poplar trees, birches, and wheat fields that are bright with scarlet poppies, white daisies, blue corn-flowers and sweet with the odour of wild musk rose. Yet there is a difference. Colours stand out more sharply in the clearer air of the St. Lawrence valley. French-Canadian farmers display their wealth more ostentatiously than the French, in the form of polished cars, which stand by the verandahs of the long, steep-roofed, manor-style farmhouses. Instead of seventeenth century coach inns one sees square-built gasoline stations and snack bars furnished with chromium and red leather stools.

St-Jean-Port-Joli is about forty miles below Quebec and looks across the St. Lawrence at the long, intertwining, forest-covered Laurentian hills. Its houses are gleamingly new, despite old-fashioned architecture. Hooked rugs hang over verandah rails and their bright magenta, orange, scarlet and cobalt colours echo the reds, purples and yellows of zinnias flowering luxuriantly in front gardens. Reflected sunlight flashes from the tin roofs of the church steeples, barns, and fish sheds, and from the white sails of the ships floating on the metal-bright river. The air is sweet with the smell of haystacks and freshly cut wood. The whirring of motorcars along the highway blends with childrens' high-pitched voices, with the hammering of the carpenters and the buzzing of cross-cut saws.

St-Jean-Port-Joli depends on both the sea and the land for its subsistence. Its spirit is consequently a blend of nostalgia for the wide, boundless sea lying beyond the Gulf, and of attachment to the countryside, attachment to traditions left by French settlers who came from beyond that strange sea and pioneered these fields, these woods, some ten or twelve generations ago.

Entering the town from the south, one sees sculptors' workshops alongside the highway, white frame houses where carvings representing the *habitants*, the woodsmen, the mariners and the politicians of St-Jean-Port-Joli stand in white-framed windows.

The biggest workshop belongs to Médard Bourgault, the best among all the carvers in rural Quebec, a man who feels deeply the

import of what he carves, and who has ever striven for complete mastery over the technique of his chosen craft.

Médard Bourgault was born on June 8, 1897, in St-Jean-Port-Joli. From the time he could walk the activities, conversations and habits of carpenters and fisherfolk were familiar to him. His father, Magloise Bourgault, a carpenter, built ships. Médard's first toys were shavings and blocks of wood which, he liked to imagine, represented the strange, faraway people whom sailors described to his father during long winter evenings spent around the kitchen stove while his mother hooked rugs. By the time most boys play cops and robbers, his artistic imagination and skill were already developed far beyond the average and were combined with dreamy thoughts of distant places.

Talent came to him from both sides of the family. His mother's uncle, Amable Charron, trained in the workshops belonging to the Quevillon family of carvers at Isle-Jesus near Montreal. The Quevillons pioneered a light, flowery, deeply-incised and ostentatious style which some historians have described as the *Royalist Revival* because it was a deliberate and calculated return to the romantic and lovely inconsequentialities popular during the last days of New France: an airy, light and, from the technical viewpoint, brilliant carving, with more than a touch of the worldly elegance, the preciosity of Boucher's portraits. But in Canada, particularly after the Conquest when English merchants and pensioned soldiers more and more crowded the streets of Montreal, the landed seigneurs lacked the money to furnish their homes with those dainty, carved gilt and tapestried chairs which are yet to be found in the *manoirs* where the ruined aristocratic families of France retired to endure the Occupation and the post-war near-famine. Thus, carving in French Canada never became primarily an embellishment of private homes and royal palaces. It was the Roman Catholic church which lavished money on architecture, painting, sculpture. From this epoch of great expenditure on art, the early eighteenth century, date the churches, carved with infinite care and humility of touch, which grace the Island of Orleans. To this epoch, also, belongs the church at St-

*"1760" reads the date on the escutcheon over the door of this old colonial home in St-Jean-Port-Joli, now the home of the artist and his family.*





*The church of St-Jean-Port-Joli. The apse was built in 1779; the west front (beyond far steeple) was added in 1815.*
G. M. Dallyn

Jean-Port-Joli, carved by Chrysostome Perrault and Amable Charron, both past masters in the technique of the florid Quevillon style.

These carvings were familiar to our artist, Médard Bourgault, from earliest infancy. At the age of eight he was already carving those religious themes which have been his lifelong preoccupation but no one took the boy's artistic abilities seriously. When the time came to decide upon a career, he became a navigator, and guided ships through the channels down the long, winding, often treacherous St. Lawrence. He was some years at sea, travelling to Africa, Portugal, England, and sculpturing when he could. But he was glad to return to work in his father's carpentry shop and settle down. He married, carved during his leisure.

"One day," he writes, "Mr. Marius Barbeau came to see me. I could not believe my ears when he told me that I was an artist and that he wanted to buy several of

*Médard Bourgault at work on a carving that represents Our Lady, the patroness of the farming folk.*



my sculptures. He bought several, including two crucifixes, and advised me, besought me to abandon my trade and devote myself entirely to sculpture."

Médard Bourgault followed this advice and began carving tiny statuettes representing the people he knew, the habitants, the woodsmen, the fishermen and then religious works.

He desired above all to specialize in religious carving. Over the long years of unremitting labour and constant application he has built up a large connection and trained a new generation of carvers in wood. The name of Bourgault will long be remembered in Canada.

A tall, quiet, shy man, ever stooped over his bench, profoundly religious, Médard Bourgault never tires of representing the Virgin. Sometimes he portrays her in the guise of the Lady, remote from the cares of the workaday world, and sometimes as a modest, hard-working woman, the patroness of the farming folk, the divinity presiding over the destinies of the fishermen and their families.

"Notre Dame des Habitants", for instance, carved in wood, represents a plain young girl, wearing a long, ordinary working dress, with her hair braided. She carries sheaves of wheat over one arm and in the other hand holds just such a loaf of bread as might have been baked in an outdoor Quebec oven.

On farms, children quickly learn to tame animals to which they become attached. Their concern for their pets is so much a part of family life in and about St-Jean-Port-Joli that, quite unconsciously, the artist portrays Christ as a child fondling a bird, in order to make Him seem more alive and more real. A little tired, the divine child reclines His head against His mother's shoulder, and she wraps Him closely within her arms. Such is the homely theme of "Notre-Dame des Oiseaux", which stands in the gardens of the Scholasticat Immaculée-Conception in Montreal.

"I tried to show what good care Our Mother in Heaven takes of us, her children, here on earth" explains Médard Bourgault. "Our Lady has never failed to answer my prayers, nor do I fail to give her thanks daily."

To his representations of Our Lady, Médard Bourgault lends the patient, long-suffering temperament of the women whom he knows, the women whose husbands earn their living upon the sea. Their ideal of divine peace he expresses in the light blond wood statue "Our Lady of the Waves" which stands in the Provincial Museum at Quebec. Our Lady stretches forward as though leaning from the helm of a ship, one hand clasping her cloak and the other extended over the rough waves.



*Crucifixion, by Médard Bourgault.*
Collection: Marius Barbeau



1.



2.

3.



**Throughout Médard Bourgault's home, panels illustrating his philosophy and portraying his family are carved into walls and chests.**

*1. The baby dons the badge of man's estate, the cap, clasps a pipe, and takes a brace of wild birds to the kitchen.*

*2. Carved from the birds frequenting the marshes alongside the mighty river during the early misty hours of morning, the heron symbolizes gentleness.*

*3. "The boy working at his desk, figuring out his mathematical problems, he's the builder . . . he's thinking out his career. He represents destiny" explains Médard Bourgault.*



2.

*4. "The seaman struggling to bring his boat ashore, I did it because all my people have been seamen . . . been one myself."*

*5. "War, the ruins caused by war, the burden of all the wars we've been in since the Conquest (1763)", continues the artist. Dates are carved into the rock borne by the woman: "1760, 1914-18, 1940-" This panel was carved during the recent war and the artist has forgotten to add the date of its conclusion.*

*6. "The blacksmith and the liar, or politician. They were discussing in a friendly way, one was Liberal and the other Conservative, but it all ended in a quarrel. Oh, yes, the people are alive today".*



4.

5.



6.



The artist's mind continually dwells upon religious themes, imagining the Crucifixion as though it had been yesterday, imagining that Pontius Pilate gave his commands in rural French Canada, rather than in far Palestine.

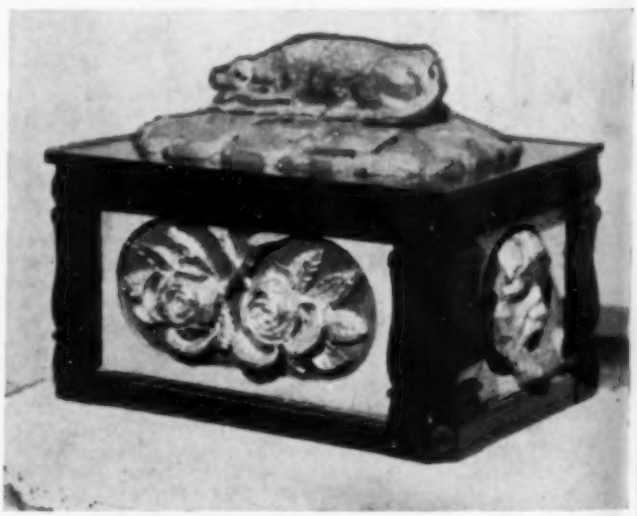
In his great series, "Via Crucis", bas-reliefs hanging in the church at St. Nicholas, in Lévis county, Bourgault pictures the executioners rather as common Canadian criminals than as Roman soldiers, though they wear the appropriate armour and carry the appropriate swords, and the disciples of Jesus resemble thoughtful young French Canadian idealists concerned about the welfare of their fellow human beings more than they resemble the Jews of Tarsus and of Galilee.

Together with his brother, Jean-Julien Bourgault, Médard carved the very fine pulpit with relief statues representing the Prophets and Virtues for their own church at St-Jean-Port-Joli which their ancestor, Amable Charron, so beautifully adorned with his handiwork.

But it is to the sculptor's own home, richly-decorated with scenes from familiar village life, that the visitor turns with greatest interest. "L'ébauche d'une génération" (the beginning of a new generation) explains Médard Bourgault, indicating a relief panel which represents a cradle, and the 'first steps'. Carved right into the panelling round his dining-room, a little child, hesitant, tries to walk. Its mother's hand is ready, at its back, to lend help but as far as possible she leaves the child to venture upon its own feet.

A relief representing his own daughter in the character of the divinity painted and carved so repeatedly throughout the ages by artists of all climes and beliefs, "The Fount" likewise adorns his own home. She is a girl of thirteen or fourteen, wearing an apron, half-womanly, half-childish. Curls escape the confines of her soft, woollen béret. She wears laced, leather shoes and holds a large earthen jar against her hip, pouring out a measure of water. Médard Bourgault has made no attempt to beautify the girl's naturally attractive healthy face. He has presented her as she is, a gentle yet firm-minded person, innocent of the sophistications of the great cities.

"Come to manhood, youth wonders what career to follow", the artist continues showing his visitor the rich and varied panels in his home. "The pioneer who breaks up new land, he is a people's source of strength," and the artist indicates a relief picturing his own boy, hand resting on his axe. The boy wears moccasins. Near this panel, another depicts a farmer scattering seed across the ploughed furrows. "How far abroad have our people been scattered" mutters the thoughtful artisan, thinking no doubt of all the Canadians scattered through the world by the tides and the fortunes of war. "The burden of war", he says, "the burden of all the wars we've been in since the Conquest" (1763); his eye is resting on another relief: a woman bent double beneath the weight of a great stone marked "1760, 1914-18, 1940-" this is an uncompleted inscription.



*A box carved with roses and a dog resting on the lid.*

Even the local political disputes have not escaped the artist's quick eye, receptive mind. "The blacksmith and the liar or politician" he explains, indicating a relief: blacksmith, joke on his lips, hand on his anvil, working and jesting with the local political agent, a busybody evidently for he has time to waste and smoke his pipe and lounge in the blacksmith's shop. "Yes, they were discussing in a friendly way, one was Liberal and the other Conservative, but it all ended in a quarrel. Oh, yes, the people are alive today."

"That panel over there, the seaman struggling to bring his boat ashore, I did it because all my people have been seamen, and this, the boy working at his desk, figuring out his mathematical problems, he's the builder." One divines he means that the little boy struggling with his mathematical problems, his own son, will by his industry contribute to building a better world.

And so to his dreams and the thoughts, sometimes penetrating, sometimes mystical, we leave the village philosopher, whittling away at a piece of wood which he will eventually build into some new creation, some new expression of his inventive mind and imagination.



*One of the earliest pieces of carved furniture executed by Médard Bourgault. The beavers represent the virtue of industry and the border designs are of leaves and acorns. The crucifix on the wall is also by the artist.*



*"La Grande-Ermine", "La Petite Ermine' and "Emerillon", the three ships in which Jacques Cartier's expedition explored the St. Lawrence.*

# Snowtime—Pictorial

*Long shadows make patterns on the snow and the smoke from a train hangs in the clear, cold air. This is White River, Ontario, whose weather station reports some of the lowest temperatures in the Canadian provinces. When this photograph was taken the temperature was 53 degree below zero.*

Malak







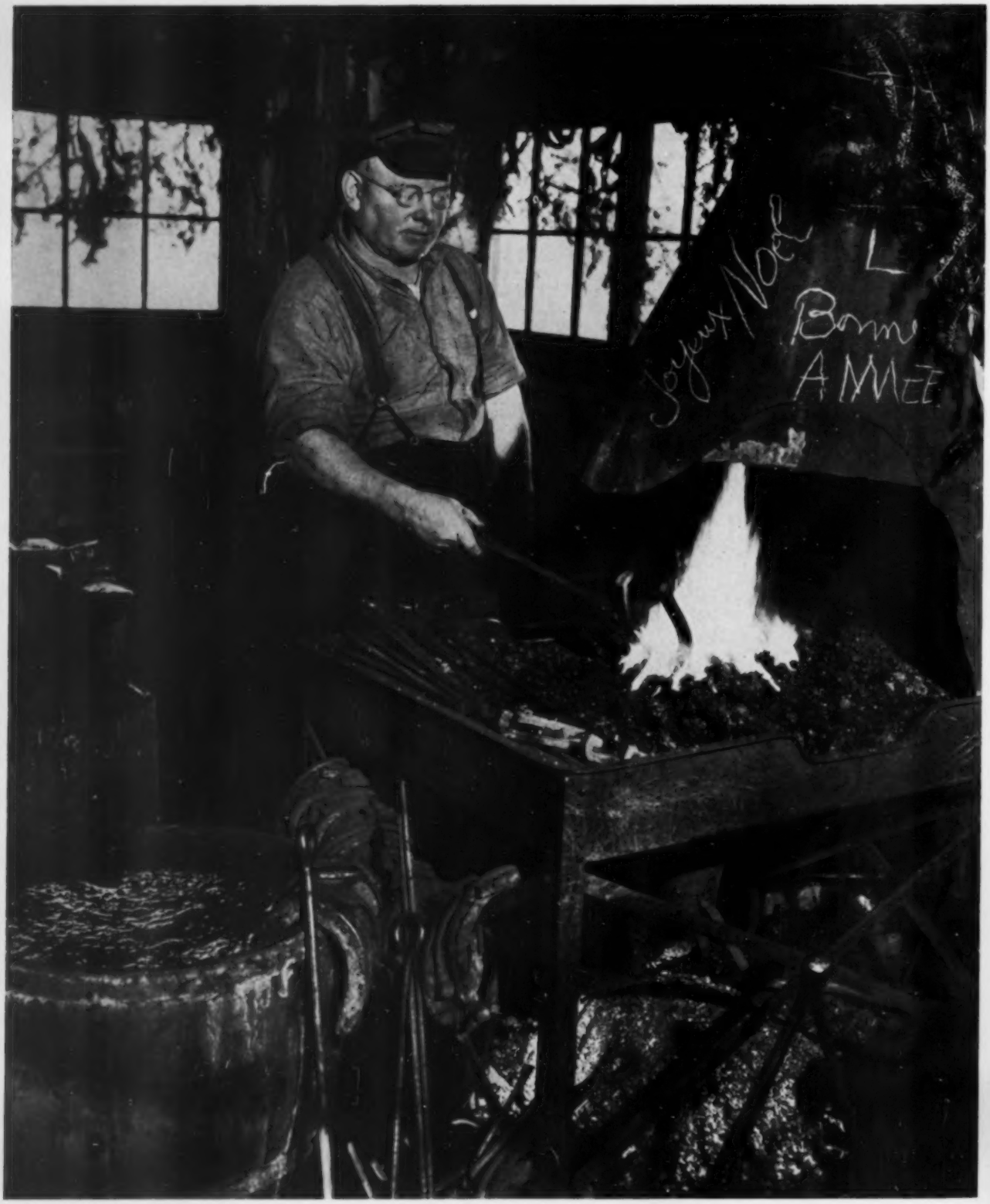
B. C. Government Travel Bureau

*On the Pacific Coast the holly crop is gathered. Bright-berried sprigs from these trees will add to the gaiety of Christmas in homes in all parts of Canada.*



Malak

*Christmas trees, festively dressed, delight the hearts of children the world over. These particular youngsters are immigrants from Europe whose home is now Canada*

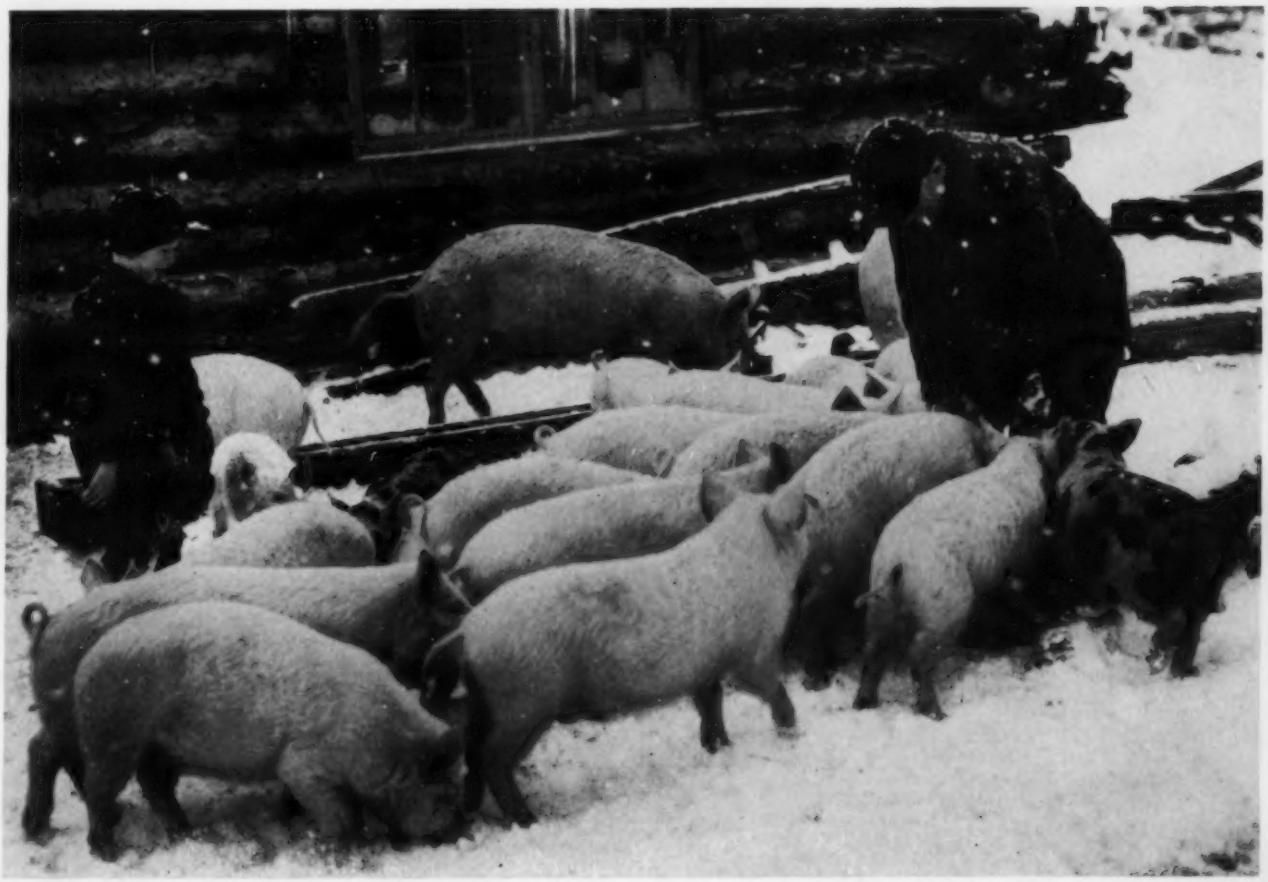



*While the fire glows and horses have to be shod the blacksmith will not idle, but the decorations on his forge proclaim his recognition of the season.*

*Christmas in a lumber camp has a flavour all its own. Chores still have to be done and here the daily water supply is being delivered.*

*The livestock sees little enough of the open during the winter months and these pigs seem to be enjoying a gambol in the snow—at mealtime.*





Malak photographs



Malak

*When runners glide smoothly over snow-packed roads and frozen waterways, the woodsmen cut and stack pulpwood for tomorrow's newspapers.*

# The Geographical Record

## Geographical Conferences in 1952

The past year was a notable one for geographers. In mid-July the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History held its meetings; these were followed by the Centennial Celebration of the American Geographical Society; which, in turn, gave place to the Congress of the International Geographical Union.

Each series of meetings was very different in character. The Pan-American Institute is a semi-governmental organization, composed chiefly of government geographers or other officers, together with their appointed geographical advisers. It is a group of men interested, in the main, in the application of geography to the practical problems of colonization and settlement, conservation, resource utilization and the dissemination of geographical knowledge. The meetings were small; they took place in the Conference Room of the U.S. Department of State; they were all panel discussions at which there was instantaneous translation given in four languages. There were few prepared papers. Members were well briefed beforehand as to the topics of discussion, they gave the point of view of their country, joined in the general debate, and finally came up with a number of specific, practical resolutions. Theorizing was eschewed, although basic geographical concepts were involved, and the conference ended by presenting a limited number of resolutions to the governments concerned urging upon them various courses of action in the use of geography.

The Institute is divided into a Commission on Geography and one on History. The Commission on Geography is further divided into a number of departments each with working committees. Each committee may have action groups attached to it, which try to develop detailed aspects of the departmental program. Thus a carefully balanced, practicable system has been organized by which certain American problems are analysed from the geographical point of view and the geographer tries to apply his research to their solution.

The main divisions of the Geography Commission are:

| *Department* | *Committee* | *Working Group* |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Physical and Bio-geography | — | Climatology |
| 2. Human Geography | Colonization and Settlement | Population |
| 3. Regional Geography | Land Classification | Urban Geography |
| 4. Dissemination | (a) Teaching Methods<br>(b) "Geography of the Americas" | Exchange of people and publications |

The Pan-American Conference was extremely well organized and, possibly because it limited itself to a few specific objectives from the very first and also because it relied on members who were fully informed of its objectives beforehand, it made notable progress. The Secretary General, Professor Zarur, and the Conference Chairman, Professor Preston James, are certainly to be congratulated on what will no doubt prove to be the most fruitful series of meetings yet undertaken.

Principal resolutions urged governments to press forward with land classification systems on a geographical basis, showing the relationship between land use and the human and physical environment; to make comparative studies of colonization in homologous areas; to prepare an atlas of colonization and settlement for the Americas; to underwrite a publication of the commission to be called "The Geography of the Americas" which will consist of exhaustive systematic and regional treatments of the countries of the Americas; and to promote or support an exchange of personnel between geographical services.

Scarcely had the conference of the Pan-American Commission on Geography concluded when geographers hastened to the Centennial Reception at the offices of The

American Geographical Society. This was followed the next day with the Centennial presentation of various medals to five of the leading geographers of the world; namely, to Mr. J. M. Wordie, President of the Royal Geographical Society; Professor R. Almagia, doyen of Italian geographers; Professor Delgado de Carvalho, father of Brazilian geography; Mr. Gilbert Grosvenor, President of the National Geographic Society of America; and Professor G.B., Cressey, President of the International Geographical Union. The Society provided some delightful and informative excursions round New York, enjoyed by all, and concluded its celebrations with a garden party in the sunken gardens of the Hispanic-America building.

Geographers just had enough time to get back to Washington for the opening session of the Seventeenth Quadrennial Congress of the International Geographical Union. This was the largest meeting of international geographers ever to assemble, there being over 1,500 delegates present from most of the nations of the world, except the U.S.S.R. and associated countries. The American National Committee, under the active Chairmanship of Dr. Wallace W. Atwood, Jr., did a magnificent job of organizing the sessions, the many exhibitions and receptions and the excursions of the conference.

This gathering was much larger and more amorphous than the preceding ones. It had no very specific objectives; its members had not been previously briefed as to what to discuss; it was as much concerned with advancing geography itself as with applying it to the problems of the day; it was a more or less open forum for the presentation of almost any paper on any topic. It gave a wonderful cross-section of geography as a whole and of the progress which it has revealed.

True, an effort was made to see that those who wished to present papers should do so in association with others having a similar idea or problem. Thus the conference was divided into sections, symposiums and commissions. The sections were groupings of convenience of relevance chiefly for the meetings; the symposiums were conference meetings where the papers were planned in advance and had some definite theme; the commissions were the working departments of the I.G.U. with continuing functions.

The sections into which the numerous individual papers were grouped consisted of: Cartography; Geomorphology; Climatology; Hydrography; Bio-geography; Resources, Agriculture and Industry; Trade and Transportation; Urban and Rural Settlement; Demography and Cultural Geography; Historical and Political Geography; and Regional Geography. Thus all the important fields of geography were represented.

Two special symposiums were organized for the Seventeenth Congress. They were those on Tropical Africa and on the Geography of World Food Supply.

The continuing work of the I.G.U. is done through its commissions. Some of these are purely research organs, to keep people working together who are interested in a certain phase of geography. Others have a more practical basis and outcome and help to apply geography to contemporary world problems. The commissions generally held round-table discussions as well as meetings for the presentation of papers. Those which met last summer were: On the Bibliography of Ancient Maps; On the Geographical Utilization of Aerial Photographs; On the International Map of the World; On Periglacial Morphology; On Aridity; On Soil Erosion; On Medical Geography; On Industrial Ports; On Regional Planning; On the World Land Use Survey; and On World Population.

The Conference heard a very inspiring address by the outgoing President, Dr. Cressey, and elected Dr. Dudley Stamp of England to be the next President of the International Geographical Union. The Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. G. H. T. Kimble, reported on the vigour and soundness of the Union and several new countries were welcomed into membership, chiefly from

Latin-America and Asia. Although half the Union is still European, there has been a remarkable expansion in the Commonwealth, the Americas and Asia, reflecting the increasing significance of geography as a university discipline and as a scientific service. There was a stronger Canadian delegation than at any previous international gathering of geographers—a fact which augurs well for the future of geography in Canada.

J. W. WATSON

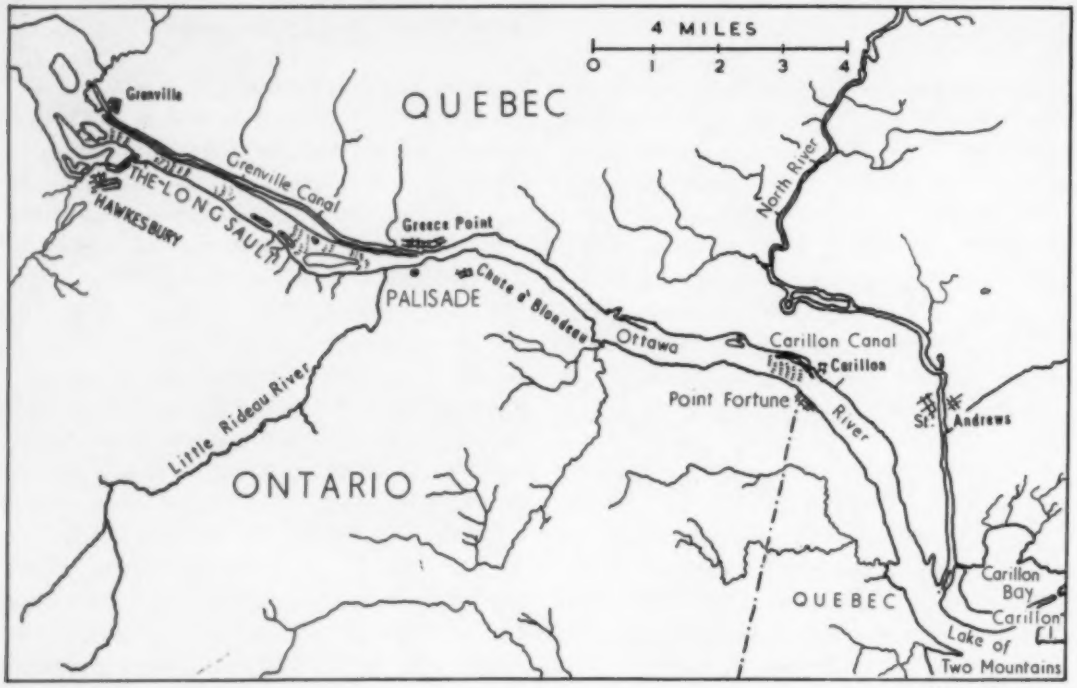
### LAVAL UNIVERSITY CENTENARY

Laval University this year celebrated the centenary of its Royal Charter granted by Queen Victoria on the 8th December, 1852, through the influence of Lord Elgin, then Governor of Canada. The institution was already well established, having been founded in 1663 by Bishop de Montmorency-Laval as a seminary for recruiting members of the clergy in Quebec, and it had become an important classical college. In 1876 it received a Pontifical Charter from the Pope. The University of Montreal was a branch until 1920 when it secured its own charter.

There are now ten faculties in Laval: arts, law, medicine, theology, philosophy, literature, social science, agriculture, land surveying, and forestry. The University owns a post-graduate school, and schools of commerce, music, household science, pedagogy, fisheries, hospital sciences, social service, pharmacy, history and geography, and the Institute of Physiology. Thirty-two classical colleges are affiliated to the arts faculty. There is in the geographical department an elaborate folklore section which publishes the magazine "Les Archives de Folklore", which is widely circulated in Canada and foreign countries. There are 370,000 volumes in the University library and its museum contains precious documents relating to the first settlements in America.

The centenary celebrations took place from the 19th to the 22nd of September, 1952. His Excellency the Governor-General, the Right Honorable Vincent Massey, who was then in residence at the Citadel, attended the ceremonies and highly commended the cultural achievements of the University. Many of the great universities of the world had sent delegates: Oxford was represented by Dr. Marius Barbeau, one of its graduates; Cambridge by Dr. Thomas Rice Henn of St. Catharine's College. The Universities of Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Dublin were represented, as well as the European Universities of Paris (the Sorbonne), Poitiers, Toulouse, Grenoble, Bordeaux, Nancy, Geneva, Brussels, Louvain, and, from the United States, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Pennsylvania, Columbia. All the Canadian universities and scientific societies had delegates. The Royal Society (England) was represented by Sir Alfred Egerton and the Académie Française by Dr. Etienne Gilson, one of its members who is professor of philosophy in the University of Toronto. The celebrations were on a large scale and ably presided over by Mgr Ferdinand Vandry, F.R.S.C., Rector of Laval.

ARTHUR BEAUCHESNE




P. R. Haldorsen.

# The Long Sault of The Ottawa

*by* F. J. ALCOCK

Photographs by E. C. Elliott, drawings by A. E. Ingram.

THE LONG SAULT of the Ottawa is not to be confused with the Long Sault of the St. Lawrence, a stretch of rapids more than two miles in length on the international border between Canada and the United States, some eight miles west of the town of Cornwall. The former, though perhaps not as well known as the latter, is famous in Canadian history as the scene of a feat of arms in which a party of seventeen young Frenchmen and some Indian allies lost their lives in defending a crude stockade against the assault of overwhelming numbers of enemy Iroquois. Exactly where did this battle take place? That is a question that has long been a matter of dispute. Evidence recently brought to light by the National Museum of Canada is of some interest in this connection.

The Long Sault, at least as now understood, is a stretch of rapids and swift water extending from above the town of Hawkesbury almost to Greece Point, a distance of some six miles. Its upper part is crossed by the interprovincial bridge at Hawkesbury. On the north side of the river the Grenville Canal with its towing path can be used to by-pass its whole length. This canal, like the one at Carillon some seven miles farther downstream and the Rideau Canal beginning at Ottawa some sixty miles upstream, is part of a system built by the British Government following the war of 1812. The purpose was to provide an inland water highway from Montreal to Kingston on Lake Ontario as an alternative to the St. Lawrence route along the international border which could not be defended easily in time of war.

What is known about the struggle referred to as the Battle of the Long Sault? The generally accepted version is briefly as follows. In the spring of 1660 the settlement at Montreal was in fear of an attack by Iroquois. A French soldier, twenty-two years of age,



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named Adam Dollard des Ormeaux, sometimes referred to as Daulac, persuaded sixteen other young men to join him in an effort to intercept the Indians on their descent of the Ottawa. Assent to the project was given by the governor, de Maisonneuve, and the little party started out late in April. On May 1st they reached the foot of the Long Sault where they found a crude palisade that had been built in a former year by Algonquins. They were joined by some forty Huron and Algonquin allies and it was decided to await the Iroquois there.

They had not long to wait for they were soon surprised by the descent of some two hundred of their foes, surprised so suddenly in fact that they had to retreat hurriedly to their palisade, leaving their cooking pots on the river bank. Seven days passed during which they warded off attacks and did what they could to strengthen their flimsy fort by putting in extra stakes and piling up earth. Being without means to carry water, they suffered greatly from thirst. Then, on the eighth day, they saw about five hundred reinforcements for their attackers arrive by canoe from downstream and they realized that the end was at hand. Some twenty-four of the Hurons and Algonquins went over and gave themselves up to the Iroquois but the rest continued to fight on. The climax came when Dollard tried to throw a keg of gunpowder with a fuse attached over the palisade among the assailants. It fell back and exploded among the defenders. Only eight remained alive when the Iroquois rushed in and these were put to death by torture.

News of the battle was brought to Montreal on June 3rd by one of the Huron allies named Louis, who had managed to escape from his Iroquois captors, and later two other Hurons who also escaped confirmed his account. The story as given by these eyewitnesses appears in a letter dated June 25th, 1660, written by the Reverend Mother Marie de l'Incarnation to her son in France. Several other writers of the time, dealing with the early history of Montreal, give similar accounts. Other observers supplied

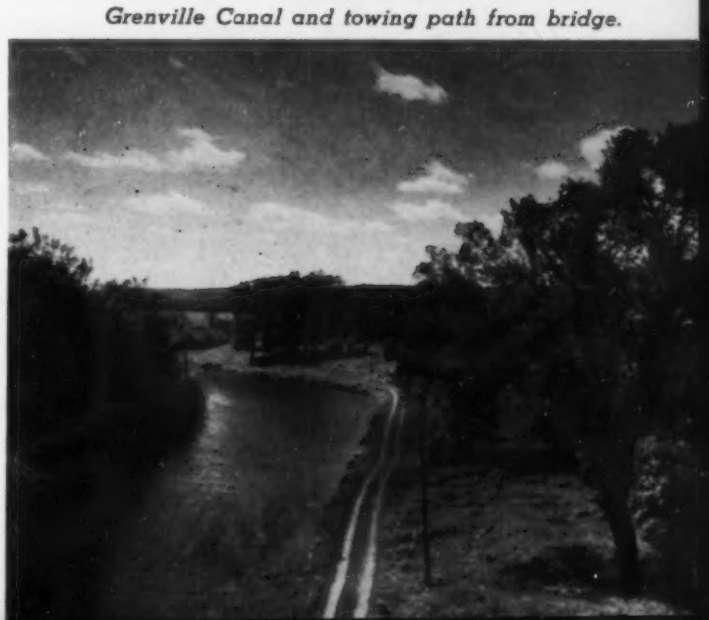


*Long Sault upstream from Hawkesbury bridge.*



*Downstream to railway bridge at Hawkesbury.*

*Grenville Canal and towing path from bridge.*





*The church at Carillon. To the left is the monument erected to Dollard and his men.*



*The lower entrance to the Carillon Canal*

later first-hand information. The fur-trader, Radisson, mentions stopping at the tragic scene eight days after the struggle was over. He saw evidences of its fury and how the captives had been bound to stakes along the river, and mutilated. The diary of the Chevalier de Troyes, describing his overland expedition from Montreal to Hudson Bay in 1686, also refers to it. Though this was twenty-six years after the battle took place, de Troyes states that at the foot of the Long Sault he saw "traces of the seventeen Frenchmen who sustained during previous wars with the Iroquois the continued efforts of seven hundred of this brutal tribe of which they killed and wounded a considerable number".

Certain historians favour another interpretation of the Dollard story. According to them, the purpose of Dollard's expedition was to trade for furs in the country to the west and he hoped to avoid if possible any conflict with the Iroquois. The latter were aware, however, that Radisson with a large brigade of canoes laden with furs from the west was on his way to Montreal and they planned to intercept him. Instead they encountered Dollard and met with such losses that they dispersed. If this view is the correct one, then the Long Sault battle was not fought primarily to save Montreal from attack. It did actually, however, save Radisson and his brigade. The fact that Dollard undeniably had trade goods with him lends support to this interpretation.

In 1919 a monument to Dollard and his comrades was erected at Carillon on the north side of the Ottawa, some seven miles below the foot of the Long Sault. At a fitting ceremony on May 24th of that year, attended by representatives of church and state, it was unveiled by a young girl named Marie Juillet, a descendant of one of Dollard's men. The inscription on the column of grey stone reads:

— ICI —
ONT GENEROUSEMENT DONNE
LEUR VIE
POUR LA NOUVELLE-FRANCE
ADAM DOLLARD DES ORMEAUX

- - - - -

MAI 1660

Dollard's name is followed by those of the other sixteen. The site of the monument is an attractive one near the Carillon church.

A short distance to the east is the very interesting Historical Museum of Argenteuil County housed in stone quarters originally erected to accommodate the Royal Engineers while they were building the Carillon Canal in the years 1826 to 1833. Just across the road from the museum in a field to the north is a large glacial boulder which is also of



lon Canal the north side of the Ottawa at Carillon.



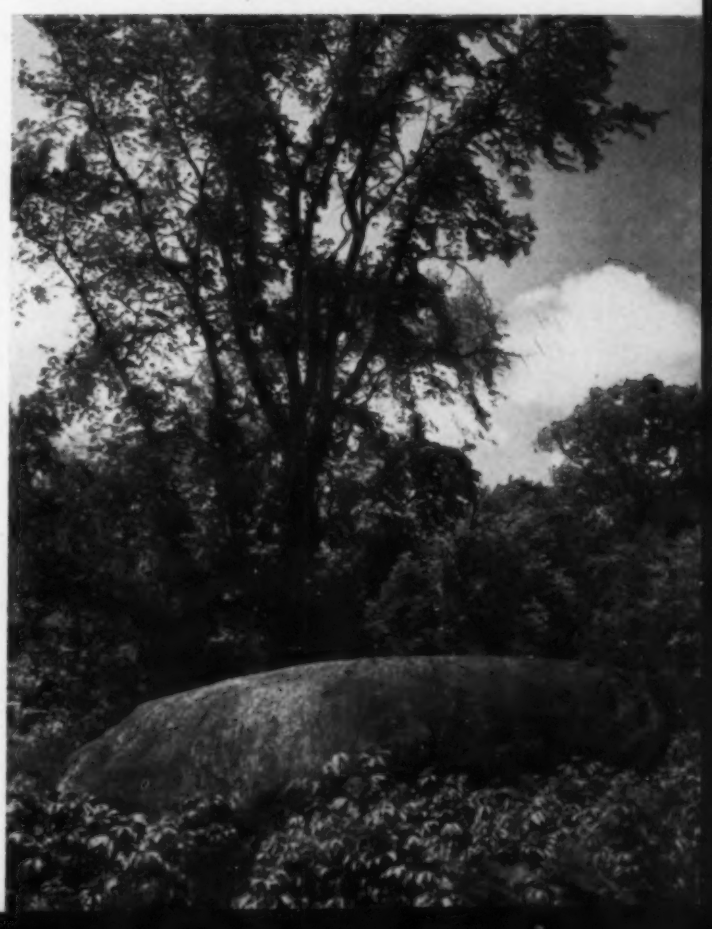
*The Historical Museum of Argenteuil County, an old stone building east of Carillon.*

historical interest. On the occasion of his descent of the Long Sault by canoe in 1860, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, stood on it to make an address.

The assumption that Carillon was probably the site of the Long Sault battle has not been everywhere accepted. There has long been a local tradition that the actual site was on the south side of the river below the mouth of the Little Rideau. The problem aroused the interest of an Ottawa lady, Miss Anne F. Dewar, who was well acquainted with the region having formerly lived at St. Andrews two miles below Carillon. Her study of the available documents in the Public Archives and elsewhere and her interviews regarding the matter with local people of the Hawkesbury region led her to the belief that the old Ross (now Lavigne) farm on the south side of the river just west of Greece Point was more likely the actual site of the battle. She called upon the National Museum for assistance in gathering information—assistance which was eventually given.

The chief difficulty that has arisen in coming to a satisfactory conclusion about the exact site of the battle is the vagueness of the accounts in respect to important details given by those who actually were present at the battle or passed the scene when traces of it were still recognizable. Louis and his two companions, or Radisson, could have provided invaluable information if they had stated definitely on which side of the river the struggle took place. They did not do so, and all accounts based on those original rec-

*The glacial erratic boulder, near the Argenteuil Museum, from which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales made an address in 1860.*





*Above:—The Little Rideau, on the south side of the Ottawa. A view upstream on the Ross farm, from the highway bridge.*

*Below:—Looking up the Little Rideau from its mouth. The immediate junction with the Ottawa is a ten-foot-fall, not shown here.*



ords are merely opinions which are not always clearly expressed. For example, one account states that the site was on the west bank of the river. In a stream flowing in a direction south of east the west bank referred to would most probably be the south bank. Another account places it on the left bank. Strictly speaking, this should mean the north side of the eastwardly flowing river, but to a person at Montreal picturing the Ottawa coming from the west the left bank might conceivably mean the south bank. Still another account states the site was at the Chaudière, a falls at the present cities of Ottawa and Hull—a very obvious impossibility. It would appear, therefore, that in considering the problem the greatest weight should be given to geographic considerations.

An important question that arises in connection with the problem is whether the name Long Sault originally included the rapids at Carillon. It would seem that six miles of rapids, the present Long Sault, is quite enough to have had a name of its own without having the term extended to include another stretch of swift water seven miles farther on, especially when the river for these intervening miles was interrupted only at one place, the short break at Chute à Blondeau. As already stated, the modern maps and even one in the Public Archives as old as 1828 stamped 'Director General of Fortifications' quite clearly differentiate the Long Sault from the Carillon rapids. The historian Parkman evidently took this view for he states: "They (Dollard and his men) had passed with difficulty the swift current at Carillon and about the first of May reached the foot of the more formidable rapid called the Long Sault".

On the other hand, we gather from the account given by de Troyes that he meant by the name Long Sault all the fast water down to and including that at Carillon. The latter rapid ends about four miles above the river expansion known as the Lake of Two Mountains. De Troyes states: "On April 9th, Messrs. de Ste. Hélène and d'Hyberville, accompanied by capable canoemen, started up the Long Sault. They carried



*An old stone house beside the Little Rideau, from the Ottawa-Montreal highway.*

their dunnage over the first rapids which are one league to the point of the lake called the Lake of Two Mountains which begins at the tip of the Island of Montreal and ends at the foot of the Long Sault." One would definitely gather from this that to de Troyes the foot of the Long Sault meant the upper end of the Lake of Two Mountains below the rapids at Carillon. To the writer this is a very strong argument in favour of the view that it was at Carillon or some place nearby that Dollard and his companions met their end.

What, however, were the traces of the Frenchmen that de Troyes refers to and did these furnish conclusive evidence that the struggle had actually been waged at this place, or did they merely mean that the party had camped here before continuing upstream? Moreover does the site at Carillon correspond in every way to the description given of the battle scene? What, too, about the traditions that Indian Bay at the foot of the Long Sault proper was the site? Such was the information available and the problem presented when the National Museum was requested to investigate the latter locality.

The task of making some excavations on the Ross farm to see what might be uncovered was entrusted to Thomas E. Lee, an archaeologist on the staff of the National Museum. The first place investigated was an earth embankment near the mouth of the Little Rideau. This was evidently of considerable age as was shown by the size of trees growing up inside it. From the first, however, it had been evident that it was not the Indian palisade sought, for it was neither in the right location nor was it of the correct shape. Excavation proved the absence here of any traces of a palisade.

The next place chosen for investigation offered much more encouragement, a cleared place farther downstream on the top of a slope facing the canoe landing and about 500 feet from it, a logical place to have been selected for the location of a fort designed to cover the landing and the portage trail. Moreover, it had been pointed out by several local men from across the river as the site of Dollard's fort. Preliminary work revealed several dug-outs which were fairly modern and may have been made by trappers but further work revealed something much older and much more interesting: traces of what had once been a palisade.

These traces are in the form of what are known as post moulds—black, charcoal-stained, circular areas which mark where stakes stood before they were burnt. They were studied in both cross section and vertical section, and definite information was gained about the size, depth, shape, etc., of the stakes that had originally stood there. As work progressed a clear picture was pre-



*Above:—Thepalisade site on the ridge top overlooking the landing at Indian Bay. To the right the land slopes steeply to the Ottawa; to the left is the small depression at times occupied by a stream.*



*Right:—Part of the flat to the east of the landing.*

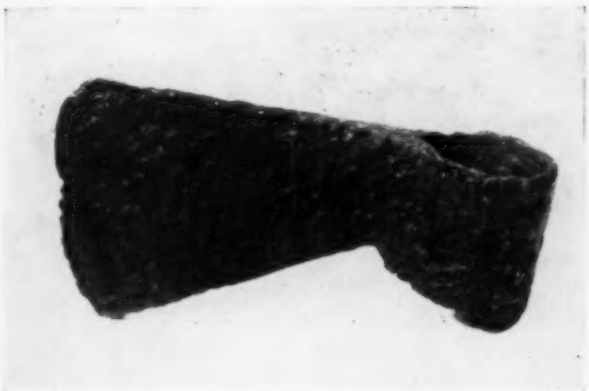


*Left:—The landing place at Indian Bay.*

*Right:—Post moulds which mark the spots where stakes of the palisade stood before they were burnt. Winter snows and spring rains since the excavation work was done have destroyed their sharp, clear-cut outlines.*



*Below:—An iron axe-head of early type found at the palisade site.*

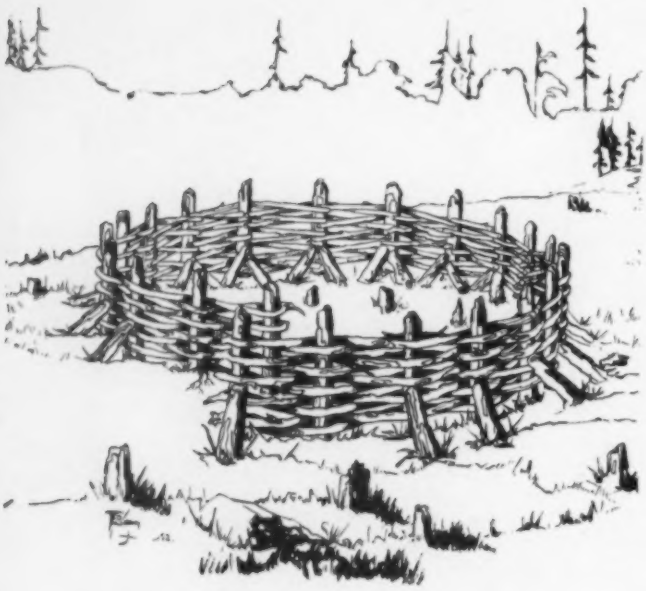


sented. The post moulds showed that the palisade was roughly circular with a diameter of about sixty-five feet. It was a typical Indian palisade, evidently very much like some of those which Champlain had seen and recorded in his explorations earlier. The stakes for the most part did not touch their neighbours—branches had evidently been used to intertwine between them. The stakes had been cut by iron, not stone, axes proving that the palisade dates from after the coming of the white man. In places an inner row of smaller post moulds showed that smaller stakes had been used to brace the outer ones.

The palisade occupied a site corresponding to the description given of that of Dollard's, the point of a ridge about twenty-six feet above the level of the waters of the Ottawa. On the side towards the river is a steep slope and on the opposite side a low depression occupied in wet weather by a small stream which joins the Ottawa at the canoe landing. At most times it is almost dry, and is just such a one as the account mentions. To the east below the landing is a flat area large enough to have accommodated the entire Iroquois bands. The manner in which the palisade was strengthened on the side from which the attack was expected suggests, too, that white men took part in the defence.

It is quite certain also that the south side of the river here was the one followed by canoes in going downstream. Anyone who has had experience in canoe travel in fast water becomes convinced of this from a visit to the locality, and the evidence of local rivermen is confirmatory. The writer had an entirely unsolicited letter to the effect from a Hawkesbury boatman who knows the river here thoroughly. From the mouth of the Little Rideau downward the current is swift and, although canoes have no trouble in descending here, the bank is bordered by low outcrops of flat-lying Ordovician limestone, so that no easy landing can be made until Indian Bay is reached.

The question is, then, whether all these geographic facts about the site which correspond so closely to what we know about the Dollard palisade are mere items of coin-



*An Indian palisade, after Champlain.*

cidence, or whether they indicate that the site was that of the Dollard fort itself. The recent work yielded no remains of weapons but local accounts say that a great deal of such material was picked up here in the past. The only article of such a nature from the locality in the possession of the National Museum at present is an iron axe-head of a very early type.

The excavations, while they cannot be said to have settled the question, have at least established one thing. Here on an attractive site, quite near the present main motor highway between Montreal and Ottawa, stood an old Indian palisade, if not the one defended by Dollard, at least undoubtedly similar to it. The work here of the archaeologist has made it possible for a replica to be erected on the same site, stake for stake, which when finished would be quite similar to the original. Were such a palisade built it would not only be of historical interest but would also be an object lesson in anthropology and a monument to archaeological field methods. Suitable plaques could tell the story. The possibility of its being the site of the Dollard battle could, if desired, be stated; certainly the fact that Dollard's palisade was like this would be stressed. Attention could also be drawn to the monument at Carillon. It is almost certain that this would attract to that place and its museum a great many more visitors than they receive at present.

The whole region of the Long Sault is also of interest for numerous reasons other than that of the Dollard battle. The Ottawa was long the regular highway to the west from Montreal. Explorers, fur-traders, soldiers, and missionaries, all used it and the method of travel was, of course, the canoe. The route led up past the Long Sault and the Chaudière Falls to Mattawa; up the Mattawa River and over a portage route to Lake Nipissing; along that body of water and down the French River to Georgian Bay; then through the North Channel past Manitoulin Island to Sault Ste. Marie and Lake Superior.*

An interesting occasion on which to have stood at the foot of one of the portages of the Long Sault, and one unmarked by any major tragedy such as the one that has just been discussed, would have been a spring day of any year around the beginning of the last century when a North West Company freight brigade was passing on its way to Fort William on Lake Superior, the great western headquarters and emporium of the Company. Let us picture what we should have seen could we have been present at such a time. Approaching is a long procession of some ninety birch-bark canoes of the "five-and-a-half fathom" variety with high rounded ends, led by a partner of the Company travelling in state in a smaller canoe. The canoes are each manned by eight voyageurs in picturesque garb including the long, variegated Assomption sash. As the first freighter draws up to the landing and its crew unloads it, we get a glimpse at its cargo—half a ton of provisions for the long trip ahead, small forty-pound personal packs, one for each of the canoemen, and, most important of all, sixty bundles or "pieces" of merchandise for trade at the western

* See The Ottawa-Nipissing Canoe Route, *Canadian Geographical Journal*, January 1951.



*A North West Company five-and-a-half fathom birch-bark canoe manned by voyageurs.*

posts, each "piece" weighing ninety to one hundred pounds. Tying the two ends of his leather "tumpline" around one of the "pieces" the voyageur swings the latter to his back, adjusts the strap across his forehead so that the weight is properly balanced, has a fellow canoeman toss up another "piece" and perhaps more on top, and then starts across the portage at a shuffling jog. Dropping his load at the upper end and retrieving his portage strap, he returns on the run to repeat it all again and again. Eventually by the labours of the whole crew the entire cargo and the canoe itself are across ready for the next stretch of smoother river. With all the crews of the brigade vying with each other in the keenest rivalry of effort, the sight would have been unforgettable.

These are only some of the highlights of the Long Sault of the Ottawa. What a tale of history, endeavour, adventure, tragedy, and perhaps even comedy, could it not tell were we but able to interpret here the soft and low murmurs and there the loud and angry tones of its racing waters.

*A voyageur carries a load across a portage. Bundles, carried by tumpline (strap across the head), weigh up to one hundred pounds each.*

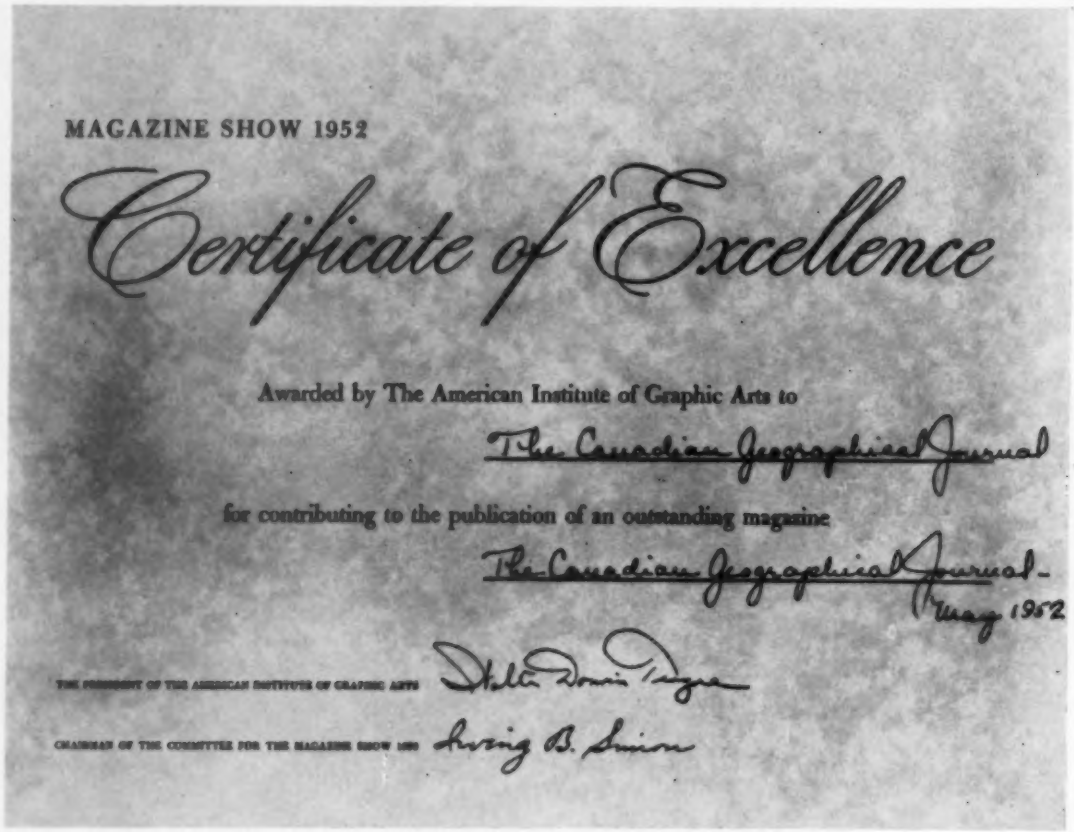


# Canadian Geographical Journal

## INDEX VOLUMES XLIV AND XLV, 1952


| | Vol. | Page |
|---|---|---|
| ABC Islands of the Netherlands West Indies. Richard Harrington (Feb.) | XLIV | 58 |
| Addison, William. Epping Forest (Aug.) | XLV | 84 |
| Africa. *See* Progress in the Sudan (Sept.) | XLV | 104 |
| Africa. *See* Tangier (Nov.) | XLV | 192 |
| Africa. *See* Travail in Egypt (Oct.) | XLV | 134 |
| Alberta. *See* Geology of the National Parks in the Rockies and Selkirks (Apr.) | XLIV | 144 |
| Alcock, F. J. The Long Sault of the Ottawa (Dec.) | XLV | 252 |
| Animals, Canadian. *See* Big Game of the Mountain Province (June) | XLIV | 226 |
| Animals, Marine. *See* Life in a Salt-Water Cove (May) | XLIV | 184 |
| Asia. *See* Kashmir (Dec.) | XLV | 000 |
| Asia. *See* Ladakh—Roof of the World (Jan.) | XLIV | 38 |
| Australian Capitals. E. O. Hoppé (Mar.) | XLIV | 96 |
| Balch, R. E. The Spruce Budworm and Aerial Forest Spraying (Nov.) | XLV | 200 |
| Bannerman, Glen. The Canadian International Trade Fair (May) | XLIV | 214 |
| Bellanti, Hugh P. Indaba (Nov.) | XLV | 210 |
| Berrill, N. J. Life in a Salt-Water Cove (May) | XLIV | 184 |
| Big Game of the Mountain Province. I. McT. Cowan (June) | XLIV | 226 |
| Birds, Canadian. W. V. Crich, Part XII (Apr.) | XLIV | 181 |
| Britain. *See* Epping Forest (Aug.) | XLV | 84 |
| Britain. *See* Highland Ranchers (Apr.) | XLIV | 140 |
| Britain. *See* Quaint London Shops (July) | XLV | 34 |
| Britain. *See* Rural London (Jan.) | XLIV | 16 |
| Britain. *See* Scratch-Dials on England's Ancient Churches (Apr.) | XLIV | 178 |
| British Columbia, The Climate of. Donald Kerr (Oct.) | XLV | 143 |
| British Columbia, Mining Development in. John F. Walker (Sept.) | XLV | 114 |
| British Columbia. *See* Big Game of the Mountain Province (June) | XLIV | 226 |
| British Columbia. *See* Geology of the National Parks in the Rockies and Selkirks (Apr.) | XLIV | 144 |
| British Columbia. *See* Haida Carver of Argillite (July) | XLV | 38 |
| British Columbia. *See* The Columbia River Basin (Aug.) | XLV | 68 |
| British Columbia. *See* The Nanaimo Petroglyph (June) | XLIV | 266 |
| Bourinot, Arthur S. Winter in the Hills (Feb.) | XLIV | 93 |
| Boy Scouts. *See* Indaba (Nov.) | XLV | 210 |
| Braithwaite, Max. Beginning of the Canadian Red Cross (Mar.) | XLIV | 138 |
| Brunel, Adrian. Tangier (Nov.) | XLV | 192 |
| Burki, H. K. Ladakh—Roof of the World (Jan.) | XLIV | 38 |
| Canada's Covered Bridges. Phil Shackleton (Mar.) | XLIV | 128 |
| Canada's First Government House. John Mackenzie (July) | XLV | 41 |
| Canada's Pacific Salmon. Roderick L. Haig-Brown (Mar.) | XLIV | 109 |
| Canadian Geographical Society, The. Annual Meeting (Mar.) | XLIV | X |
| Canadian Geographical Society, The. National Scholarships in Geography 1952 (Mar.) | XLIV | 108 |
| For 1953 (Dec.) | XLV | 111 |
| Canadian International Trade Fair, The. Glen Bannerman (May) | XLIV | 214 |
| Canadian Red Cross, Beginning of the. Max Braithwaite (Mar.) | XLIV | 138 |
| Cavell, Nik. The Colombo Plan (May) | XLIV | 202 |
| Clegg, A. Ways About Quebec (Jan.) | XLIV | 22 |
| Climate of British Columbia, The. Donald Kerr (Oct.) | XLV | 143 |
| Colombo Plan, The. Nik Cavell (May) | XLIV | 202 |
| Columbia River Basin, The. Norman Marr (Aug.) | XLV | 68 |
| Conservation Authorities in Southern Ontario. A. H. Richardson (Sept.) | XLV | 86 |
| Covered Bridges, Canada's. Phil Shackleton (Mar.) | XLIV | 128 |
| Cowan, I. McT. Big Game of the Mountain Province (June) | XLIV | 226 |
| Crich, W. V. Canadian Birds, Part XII (Apr.) | XLIV | 181 |
| Cuthbert Chapel at Berthier, The. E. G. Woodley (Oct.) | XLV | 170 |
| Dunn, Josephine Hambleton. The Wood-Carver of St-Jean-Port-Joli (Dec.) | XLV | 234 |
| Egypt, Travail in. George H. T. Kimble (Oct.) | XLV | 134 |
| Epping Forest. William Addison (Aug.) | XLV | 84 |
| Eskimos. *See* The Padleimiuts (Jan.) | XLIV | 2 |
| Europe. *See* Liechtenstein (Oct.) | XLV | 158 |
| Europe. *See* Norway—The Way to the North (July) | XLV | 2 |
| Europe (France). *See* The Lascaux Prehistoric Cave (Aug.) | XLV | 64 |
| Europe (Ireland). *See* In the Wicklow Mountains (June) | XLIV | 242 |
| Flowers, Some Spring. Malak (May) | XLIV | 198 |
| Forest Research in Ontario. A. P. Leslie (Feb.) | XLIV | 70 |
| Freeman, H. E. Gold Mining in Northern Ontario (June) | XLIV | 252 |
| Geographical Record. Geography Commission of Pan-American Institute of Geography and History. N. L. Nicholson (Jan.) | XLIV | 42 |
| Geographical Conference 1952. J. W. Watson (Dec.) | XLV | 249 |
| Geography, List of Books Useful in Teaching (Jan.) | XLIV | 45 |
| Geology of the National Parks of Canada in the Rockies and Selkirks. B. R. MacKay (Apr.) | XLIV | 144 |
| Giant Trees. Don Glassman (Oct.) | XLV | 168 |
| Glassman, Don. Giant Trees (Oct.) | XLV | 168 |
| Gold Mining in Northern Ontario. B. J. McGuire and H. E. Freeman (June) | XLIV | 252 |
| Guillet, Edwin C. The Lascaux Prehistoric Cave (Aug.) | XLV | 64 |
| Haida Carver of Argillite. Lyn Harrington (July) | XLV | 38 |
| Haig-Brown, Roderick L. Canada's Pacific Salmon (Mar.) | XLIV | 109 |
| Harrington, Lyn. Haida Carver of Argillite (July) | XLV | 38 |
| Harrington, Richard. ABC Islands of the Netherlands West Indies (Feb.) | XLIV | 58 |
| Harrington, Richard. Surinam, Partner of the Netherlands (Aug.) | XLV | 42 |
| Harrington, Richard. The Padleimiuts (Jan.) | XLIV | 2 |
| Highland Ranchers. Alastair Matheson (Apr.) | XLIV | 140 |
| Home, Ruth M. Path Masters and Pound Keepers (Nov.) | XLV | 196 |
| Hoppé, E. O. Australian Capitals (Mar.) | XLIV | 96 |
| Hoppé, E. O. Quaint London Shops (July) | XLV | 34 |
| Hoppé, E. O. Rural London (Jan.) | XLIV | 16 |
| Hyslop, John. Progress in the Sudan (Sept.) | XLV | 104 |
| Indaba. Hugh P. Bellanti (Nov.) | XLV | 210 |

| | Vol. | Page |
|---|---|---|
| In the Wicklow Mountains (Ireland). Alan B. Mountjoy (June) | XLIV | 242 |
| Kashmir. Hedda M. Morrison (Dec.) | XLV | 216 |
| Kerr, Donald. The Climate of British Columbia (Oct.) | XLV | 143 |
| Kimble, George H. T. Travail in Egypt (Oct.) | XLV | 134 |
| Ladakh—Roof of the World. H. K. Burki (Jan.) | XLIV | 38 |
| Lascaux Prehistoric Cave, The. Edwin C. Guillet (Aug.) | XLV | 64 |
| Leechman, Douglas. The Nanaimo Petroglyph (June) | XLIV | 266 |
| Leechman, Douglas. The Prairie Indian Tipi (Sept.) | XLV | 113 |
| Leslie, A. P. Forest Research in Ontario (Feb.) | XLIV | 70 |
| Liechtenstein. Kees van Hoek (Oct.) | XLV | 158 |
| Life in a Salt-Water Cove. N. J. Berrill (May) | XLIV | 184 |
| List of Books Useful in Teaching Geography (Jan.) | XLIV | 45 |
| Long Sault of the Ottawa, The. F. J. Alcock (Dec.) | XLV | 252 |
| MacDonald, Wilson. May (May) | XLIV | 196 |
| McGuire, B. J. Gold Mining in Northern Ontario (June) | XLIV | 252 |
| McGuire, B. J. Steel Forges Ahead (Nov.) | XLV | 174 |
| MacKay, B. R. Geology of the National Parks of Canada in the Rockies and Selkirks (Apr.) | XLIV | 144 |
| Mackenzie, John. Canada's First Government House (July) | XLV | 41 |
| Malak. Some Spring Flowers (May) | XLIV | 198 |
| Manitoba. *See* The Pas (Aug.) | XLV | 54 |
| Marr, Norman. The Columbia River Basin (Aug.) | XLV | 68 |
| Matheson, Alastair. Highland Ranchers (Apr.) | XLIV | 140 |
| May (poem). Wilson MacDonald (May) | XLIV | 196 |
| Mining Development in British Columbia. John F. Walker (Sept.) | XLV | 114 |
| Morrison, Hedda M. Kashmir (Dec.) | XLV | 216 |
| Mountjoy, Alan B. In the Wicklow Mountains (June) | XLIV | 242 |
| Nanaimo Petroglyph, The. Douglas Leechman (June) | XLIV | 266 |
| Netherlands West Indies, ABC Islands of the. Richard Harrington (Feb.) | XLIV | 58 |
| New Brunswick. *See* The Spruce Budworm and Aerial Forest Spraying (Nov.) | XLV | 200 |
| Nicholson, Norman L. Geographical Record (Jan.) | XLIV | 42 |
| Nicholson, Norman L. Norway—The Way to the North (July) | XLV | 2 |
| Northwest Territories. *See* The Padleimiuts (Jan.) | XLIV | 2 |
| Norway—The Way to the North. Norman L. Nicholson (July) | XLV | 2 |
| Ontario, Conservation Authorities in Southern. A. H. Richardson (Sept.) | XLV | 86 |
| Ontario, Forest Research in. A. P. Leslie (Feb.) | XLIV | 70 |
| Ontario, Gold Mining in Northern. B. J. McGuire and H. E. Freeman (June) | XLIV | 252 |
| Ontario. *See* Canada's First Government House (July) | XLV | 41 |
| Ontario. *See* Path Masters and Pound Keepers (Nov.) | XLV | 196 |
| Padleimiuts, The. Richard Harrington (Jan.) | XLIV | 2 |
| Path Masters and Pound Keepers. Ruth M. Home (Nov.) | XLV | 196 |
| Prairie Indian Tipi, The. Douglas Leechman (Sept.) | XLV | 113 |
| Prairies, Water for the. George Spence (Feb.) | XLIV | 48 |
| Progress in the Sudan. John Hyslop (Sept.) | XLV | 104 |
| Quaint London Shops. E. O. Hoppé (July) | XLV | 34 |
| Quebec, Ways About. R. B. Thomas and A. Clegg (Jan.) | XLIV | 22 |
| Quebec. *See* The Cuthbert Chapel at Berthier (Oct.) | XLV | 170 |
| Quebec. *See* The Wood-Carver of St-Jean-Port-Joli (Dec.) | XLV | 234 |
| Regional Bibliography, 1951 Supplement (Mar.) | XLIV | XI |
| Richardson, A. H. Conservation Authorities in Southern Ontario (Sept.) | XLV | 86 |
| Robinson, A. C. The Pas, Crossroads of the New North (Aug.) | XLV | 54 |
| Robinson, M. E. The Pas, Crossroads of the New North (Aug.) | XLV | 54 |
| Ross, Verna M. The Skier's Lament (Feb.) | XLIV | 94 |
| Rural London. E. O. Hoppé (Jan.) | XLIV | 16 |
| Salmon, Canada's Pacific. Roderick L. Haig-Brown (Mar.) | XLIV | 109 |
| Saskatchewan's North. Jim Wright (July) | XLV | 14 |
| Scratch-Dials on England's Ancient Churches. Margaret K. Zieman (Apr.) | XLIV | 178 |
| Shackleton, Phil. Canada's Covered Bridges (Mar.) | XLIV | 128 |
| Snowtime—Pictorial. (Dec.) | XLV | 242 |
| South America. *See* Surinam (Aug.) | XLV | 42 |
| Spence, George. Water for the Prairies (Feb.) | XLIV | 48 |
| Spruce Budworm and Aerial Forest Spraying, The. R. E. Balch (Nov.) | XLV | 200 |
| Steel Forges Ahead. B. J. McGuire (Nov.) | XLV | 174 |
| Surinam, Partner of the Netherlands. Richard Harrington (Aug.) | XLV | 42 |
| Tangier. Adrian Brunel (Nov.) | XLV | 192 |
| The Pas, Crossroads of the New North. M. E. and A. C. Robinson (Aug.) | XLV | 54 |
| Thomas, R. B. Ways About Quebec (Jan.) | XLIV | 22 |
| Trade Fair, The Canadian International. Glen Bannerman (May) | XLIV | 214 |
| Travail in Egypt. George H. T. Kimble (Oct.) | XLV | 134 |
| van Hoek, Kees. Liechtenstein (Oct.) | XLV | 158 |
| Walker, John F. Mining Development in British Columbia (Sept.) | XLV | 114 |
| Water for the Prairies. George Spence (Feb.) | XLIV | 48 |
| Watson, J. W. Geographical Record (Dec.) | XLV | 249 |
| Ways About Quebec. R. B. Thomas and A. Clegg (Jan.) | XLIV | 22 |
| Wood-Carver of St-Jean-Port-Joli, The. Josephine Hambleton Dunn (Dec.) | XLV | 234 |
| Woodley, E. G. The Cuthbert Chapel at Berthier (Oct.) | XLV | 170 |
| Wright, Jim. Saskatchewan's North (July) | XLV | 14 |
| Zieman, Margaret K. Scratch-Dials on England's Ancient Churches (Apr.) | XLIV | 178 |




## EDITOR'S NOTE-BOOK

### An Honour for the Journal

We are proud to inform our members that at the Third Annual Magazine Show the Society was awarded a certificate of excellence for "the publication of an outstanding magazine", specifically the Journal for May 1952. The show, which is organized by The American Institute of Graphic Arts, was held in New York City in October. Selection was made by a panel of judges from 563 entries and only three Canadian periodicals were chosen. Our May issue was shown, displaying pages 198 and 199, fine examples of the work of Ottawa photographer Malak. Though only two pages could be displayed the magazine was judged as a whole (for general appearance and presentation, not for textual content); in the words of the catalogue: ". . . the exhibits on display are representative of a consistent excellence throughout each of the publications selected by the judges". The Journal won distinction in two categories, illustration and photography, and typography and lettering. The American Institute of Graphic Arts established the annual show for the purpose of raising the professional standards of layout, design and production of magazines and we are gratified that the Journal, in open competition, found a place in its exhibition.

* * *

### Contributors

Hedda Morrison is known to our readers for her beautiful photographic studies of eastern countries. Mrs. Morrison seems to have the knack of making herself and her camera invisible to her subjects. After many years in China as a professional photographer, she married an Englishman, moved to England, then went to Sarawak, where she now lives. She visited Kashmir last year.

— F. J. Alcock studied at the Universities of Toronto, Yale and Wisconsin, his particular interests being geology and mineralogy. After more than thirty years service on the Geological Survey of Canada, Dr. Alcock was, in 1947, appointed to his present position as Chief Curator of the National Museum of Canada. — Josephine Hambleton Dunn is a native of Ottawa and a graduate of the Slade School of Fine Arts in London, England. She is known for her free-lance writing on art subjects and for her work at the National Museum of Canada as assistant to Dr. Marius Barbeau.

* * *

**Scholarships in Geography, 1953**

The Directors of the Society are pleased to announce that six Canadian Geographical Society scholarships will be awarded in 1953. The scholarships, for geographical study in Canada, will be for the sum of $250 each. Full details as to conditions will be found on page III.

## AMONGST THE NEW BOOKS

### The British West Indies

*by W. L. Burn*

(The Ryerson Press, Toronto, 1951, $2.00)

This is a history book rather than a geography but a history which will appeal to the geographer, especially the political geographer, because its object is "to show how the West Indies were affected by the changing colonial policy and social concepts of Britain" from the sixteenth century to the present day.

The first few chapters are concerned with historical events in Europe with particular reference to the West Indies, and it is here that the significance of the geographical location of the islands for "war and trade" is considered. Later, attention is focussed on the West Indies themselves, beginning with a vivid sketch of the physical setting and way of life of the people before the abolition of slavery. It was during this period that the islands were of greatest use to the European powers controlling them. The tropical and sub-tropical raw materials flowed across the Atlantic bringing large revenues with them while the islands themselves provided markets for the products of the European countries. The abolition of slavery was one of the factors which changed this situation. The part of the book dealing with the effects of this social upheaval and the influence of the geographical factors upon it is particularly fascinating and forms a logical prelude to the West Indian problems of the present time. The author maintains that after 1815, Great Britain needed very little from her West Indian colonies but "she was conscious of having duties to perform towards their inhabitants". The problem of relating colonial welfare to income from the colonies later became more complex when added to the policy of ultimate self-government, particularly as a result of the close proximity of the West Indies to the United States of America on one hand and the nationalistic republics of Central and South America on the other. But Professor Burn does not try to prophesy the future. His scholarly presentation of the facts is sufficient in itself to enable present events to be intelligently interpreted.

The index and annotated book list should prove particularly useful to the student. The list includes official publications which are often so difficult to track down and some recent unofficial documents.

NORMAN L. NICHOLSON

* * *

### An Historical Atlas of the Indian Peninsula

*by C. Collin Davies*

(Oxford University Press, Indian Branch, 1949, Rs 3.8)

The atlas is composed of 48 comprehensive maps provided with brief explanatory texts. The earliest Indian history (500 B.C. to the beginning of the Christian era) is illustrated by four maps, so is the first millenium A.D. The remainder of medieval times is

(*Continued on page IX*)

***Application for Membership***

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(*Continued from page VIII*)

covered by six maps, but the majority of the historical maps (19) depict the last four centuries and the time after 1770 in particular (12 maps).

The basic fact of the "aryanisation" of Northern India by the early big invasion of the Aryans from the northwest is vaguely mentioned in the introduction. This fact deserves to be represented on a map. Brahui, the isolated Dravidian people in Baluchistan, can be regarded as a relic of the formerly solid Dravdiian substratum (page 84).

The political rivalry of European powers in India (mentioned on page 52) could be represented cartographically in a more impressive way. The extension of the word "Muhummadan" (on map 25) to the whole white area is an obvious mistake.

The adjustment of the masses of population to the natural conditions of environment is exceptionally clear in India. The coincidence of the densely populated regions in the Ganges lowland with areas of heavy rainfall is well known, but is not too clearly represented on the maps (39 and 44).

The early expansion of Indian influences to the southeastern archipelago could be cartographically expressed (map 14) by representing the former extension of Hinduism. The map of religions (45) is very much generalized and probably for this reason the author did not give the area of the Sikhs and of the Buddhists in the eastern part of Kashmir.

The author is an authority on Pathan problems in the North-West Frontier of Pakistan. He illustrates the distribution of the Pathan tribes on map 36. His maps of Aryan (40) and non-Aryan (41) languages are very interesting.

Two economic maps (42-43) illustrate the distribution of products of agriculture and mining and a third map (46) the main lines of railways.

The last two maps help in comparing India before and after the partition of 15 August 1947. The whole area between West and East Pakistan is represented as Indian Union, although Hyderabad did not belong to India in 1947 and the fate of Kashmir is still not decided.

The bibliographical notes will render service to people interested in India. As seen by a geographer the atlas has certain weaknesses, but nevertheless it is a valuable publication and a positive achievement. A set of maps representing facts of Indian history little known to the general public, should be welcome. The atlas is filling a gap in Indian literature. B. ZABORSKI

* * *

## North With The Spring

*by Edwin Way Teale*

(Dodd, Mead, New York and Toronto, $6.50)

The author of this handsome volume, a well-known entomologist, nature photographer and writer, planned to enlarge his experience of spring by travelling with the spring of one year along a complex route across the eastern United States from south to north. In this work he tells how he and his wife started in the Florida Everglades, "where spring begins for the North American continent", and, in the course of three months, made their devious way to the summit of Mount Washington, in northern New England. Thus they sampled the coming of spring in many states, instead of experiencing the entire season in one locality.

In the course of their long journey, the naturalist-author was sensitively alert to the effects of spring on various forms of life in the regions traversed. In colourful prose he brings thoughtfully and informatively to the reader his observations of trees, wild flowers, birds, mammals, reptiles, batrachians, fish, and especially the insects. Frequently his descriptions, such as that of the "unwinding" song of the winter wren, are particularly felicitous. His route was carefully planned to touch many points of special interest, which, illuminated by numerous items of little-known lore, are pleasantly delineated. The thirty-five illustrations that accompany the text are characteristic of the beautiful and informative photography for which the author is justly celebrated.

While great care to combine literary art with factual accuracy has apparently been taken, the published result is not so uniformly successful as to deserve the reader's implicit trust. It should not, for instance, be stated without qualification that ocean tides reach their peak in spring. Spring tides have no special connection with the spring season, but occur at each new moon and each full moon throughout the year. On the Atlantic coast of Canada the maximum tides are likely to occur in autumn or early winter. We are told that flight songs are "characteristic" of birds that nest on or near the ground, but the facts are that many birds in that category are not known to have flight songs, while such songs are commonly uttered by some high-nesting birds, including goldfinches, purple finches, and barn and tree swallows.

In a book about spring it is clearly desirable to have regard to just what the limits of that season are. Our author follows the widely held notion that spring extends from the Vernal Equinox to the Summer Solstice. Now it is evident that if we consider the year to be divided into four seasons of equal length, and if summer is the season of maximum day-length, the Summer Solstice is the middle of summer. On that basis of calculation, the Vernal Equinox would be the middle of spring, which season would begin in early February and terminate in early May. The reason why those are not the limits of spring as residents of the north temperate zone know it is that seasonal temperature changes outside the tropics lag behind the changes in the sun's apparent altitude above the horizon. This lag is not, however, so great as to postpone the beginning of spring to the Vernal Equinox. If, on the other hand, the time and duration of spring are set solely to accord with the times of local phenological phenomena, the season will vary from place to place, and from year to year, in its time and in its length.







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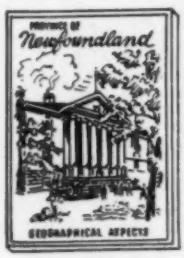
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The compromise that most nearly and widely agrees with the observed situation resulting from the time-lag in the warming of the north temperate zone and that is commonly stated in dictionaries and encyclopedias, is expressed by the Encyclopedia Americana as follows: "Spring, the season of the year which follows winter and ushers in summer, and which in the United States includes the months of March, April and May".

It is unfortunate that the travels of the author and his wife "north with the spring" were abruptly terminated south of the Canadian border. Although there is passing mention of the fact that spring swept on north of that line, the work under review makes no attempt to present the pageant of its progress from southern Quebec to Canada's northern shore—a distance nearly

(*Continued on page XI*)


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(*Continued from page X*)

twice as great as that between the Everglades and Mount Washington. Here and there through the book one comes upon other signs that the author of this account of "the North American spring" is unduly preoccupied with that part of North America known as the United States—such as the statement that young eels are distributed all along the seaboard from the rice country to Maine. A properly patriotic naturalist need not be patriocentric. HARRISON F. LEWIS

* * *

### Environmental Foundations of European History

*by Derwent Whittlesey*

(Appleton-Century-Crofts, New York)

Europe is but a peninsula of a much larger land mass—that of Eurasia: it is divided only by an interior sea (the Mediterranean) from the continent of Africa. Professor Whittlesey illustrates this geographical position of Europe on a map of relief and principal zones of natural vegetation.

The work is arranged chronologically, with particular stress on certain important periods of human history: about 1000 B.C., the beginning of the Christian era, the end of the Roman Empire, about the year A.D. 1000, the threshold of the great geographical discoveries in the fifteenth century, the period preceding the industrial revolution in the eighteenth century and, finally, contemporaneous Europe on the threshold of tomorrow.

The author describes the economic and political situation as projected on the natural conditions of environment.

There are fourteen black and white maps in Professor Whittlesey's work. The maps 1 A, B, C, D (Europe at intervals of 1,000 years) are very clear and informative, as are maps 2 (landforms and vegetation of Eurasia) and 3. Map 4 represents the relief and the climate of Europe and the Roman Empire. The boundaries are explained as corresponding to the "greatest extent of Roman Empire". Really Rome's influences extended temporarily even beyond those limits (to the River Elbe in Germany, to Wales and to Mesopotamia). The northeast of the Hungarian plain has no Mediterranean climate.

Three maps (5, 6 and 7) illustrate the medieval world. The main geographical regions are depicted, the medieval trade routes and commercial centres, as well as medieval mineral resources in west and central parts of Europe. The author omits salt in Cracow, amber on the coast of the Baltic Sea and the resources of Eastern Europe, developed in late medieval times. Map 9 represents the European national states in the fifteenth century. It would help the reader if the limits of the Moscovite state in eastern Europe were also shown. Names of some cities are illegible, and "Gniesenau" should be "Gniezno". Map 11 shows relief, land use and some political lines which illustrate the "eastward expansion of Europe and westward expansion of Russia". The contents of the map are very rich and for this reason it is not too easy to disentangle quickly all the lines concerned, in spite of the fact that they are very much simplified. Map 12 gives a very clear picture of the distribution of coal and iron ore in contemporary Europe. Except for a few omissions in Russia the map is very complete.

The chapter on Europe on the threshold of tomorrow is most enlightening. Maps 13 and 14 give Europe's position in Eurasia and in the world respectively. The author discusses the post-war position of the Soviet Union and its "satellite" states.

The readers of the book will find very useful observations in the appendix, and references to relevant literature.

The historical and the geographical material in the book are well balanced. It is excellent supplementary reading for students of the geography of Europe who are interested in history. It should be used together with a good historical atlas in which essentials of the territorial structure of the states and spacial development are represented. B. ZABORSKI

* * *

### Arden and Avon

*by S. P. B. Mais.*

(Ryerson Press, Toronto, $3.75)

S. P. B. Mais has a name which is well known in Britain. His new book *Arden and Avon* is devoted to what can best be described as Shakespeare country. Between the valley of the Avon and the forest of Arden Shakespeare lived. Here he was born, married, wrote plays, died and even, if fable is to be taken for fact, poached deer from the respected, though disliked, Sir Thomas Lucy. We are all anxious to know more of our greatest playwright, and it is no surprise, therefore, that the work of so reputable a writer on this popular subject should have been awaited with pleasure. The result is disappointing.

Mr. Mais, who has frequently written enlivening travel books, only bores with this one. It is true that this book shows Warwickshire for the beautiful and diverse county that it is, true that it shows little known houses of grandeur, forgotten battlefields, hills, woods and villages which are overlooked by the passing tourist. It unearths sidelights of history which, though interesting, escape the history books. The author has achieved much, and the subject matter could not be better, but for some reason the book fails to arouse ready enthusiasm. S. P. B. Mais has endeavoured to avoid the monotony of unrelieved descriptive writing, so common to guide books, by making this book the story of a personal journey. Here is the crux of the matter. His venture into the realms of personal writing is not successful. It is Mr. Mais' inability to distinguish between lively anecdote and trivial, domestic detail which mars this book.

*Arden and Avon* attempts to disclose some of the heart of Britain, yet it fails to do justice to the land

of Shakespeare. The profuse illustrations by R. A. Maynard do not add importance to the text.

JAMES PILDITCH

* * *

### Explorer's Scotland

*by Martin Thornhill*

(Ryerson Press, Toronto, $3.75)

No country in the world has, for its size, more influence or prestige than Scotland. In his new book, *Explorer's Scotland*, Martin Thornhill tells us why. He has not written of whiskey and tweed, but of the romance of Scottish history, of the beauty of heather-clad moors and castles of granite, of swaying kilts and skirling pipes. Mr. Thornhill successfully captures the essential diversity of a country at once rich in romance and industry, tradition and enterprise. His book is a complete one. It combines the merits of informative and descriptive writing with those of a practical guide. The author suggests interesting routes which the traveller might take, and supplies a wealth of information to give them vitality. He lingers, as the true explorer does, over the delights of a place-name, the story of an ancient battle, the intricacies of old customs and traditions. The chapter headings give a good idea of the book's contents: Haunts of Heroes, Labels and the Language, It's an Old Scots Custom, History in a Nutshell, The Games and the Sport, Scottish Tour, and so on.

He relates what happened at Glencoe, the Glen o' Weeping, which Macauley described as "the very valley of death", and Dickens thought "a terrible place that will live in my dreams for years". He writes of Rob Roy and Bonnie Prince Charlie. And as he writes so, page by page, the picture of Scotland becomes complete for us. This book, illustrated with excellent photographs, leaves the reader satisfied, more knowledgeable, and with some of the author's own enthusiasm for this proud country, Scotland.

JAMES PILDITCH

* * *

### The System of Mineralogy Vol. II.

*by Dana, Palache, Berman, and Frondel*

(John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York, $15.00)

This is the seventh edition of the famous work by James Dwight Dana, professor of geology at Yale University, which appeared originally in 1837. Later editions were revised by the author and his son, Edward Salisbury Dana, professor of physics at Yale. The work has long been the standard text and reference wherever mineralogy has been studied.

The present edition has been entirely rewritten by three Harvard mineralogists, Charles Palache, the late Harry Berman, and Clifford Frondel. The first of these, who taught mineralogy at Harvard from 1896 until his retirement in 1941, is noted for his contributions in mineralogy, crystallography and paragenesis of American minerals. Dr. Berman, late associate professor of mineralogy and Curator of the Harvard Mineralogical Museum, was a specialist in the field of mineral chemistry and physical mineralogy. His death in 1944 from an accident while travelling abroad was a great loss to science. Dr. Frondel, whose particular fields are descriptive mineralogy and genetic crystallography, is associate professor of mineralogy at Harvard.

The volume covers the halides, carbonates, nitrates, iodates, borates, sulphates, selenates, chromates, phosphates, arsenates, molybdates and tungstates, etc. With many revisions and the addition of much new material the volume is of greater value than ever. Volume I of the present edition appeared in 1944; Volume IV is in preparation.

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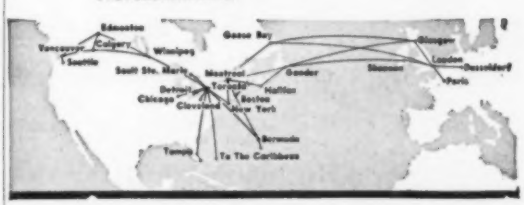
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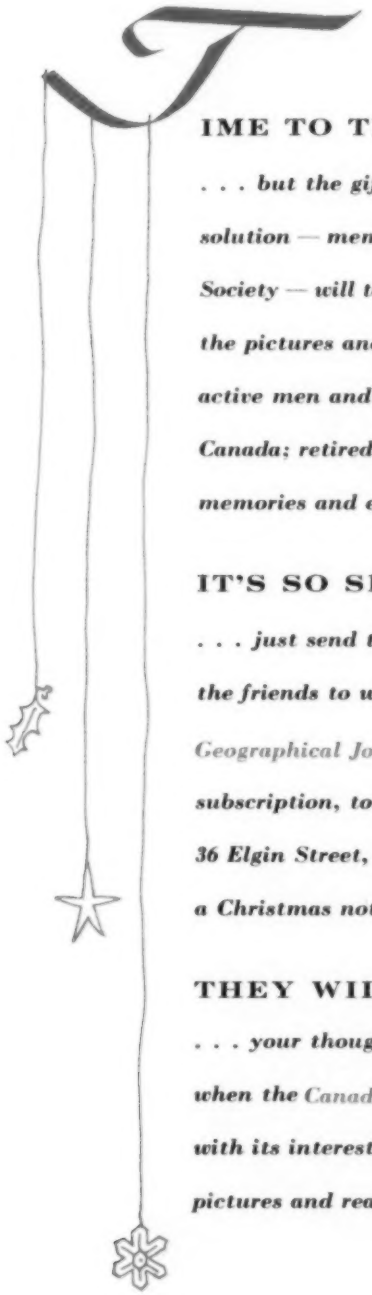
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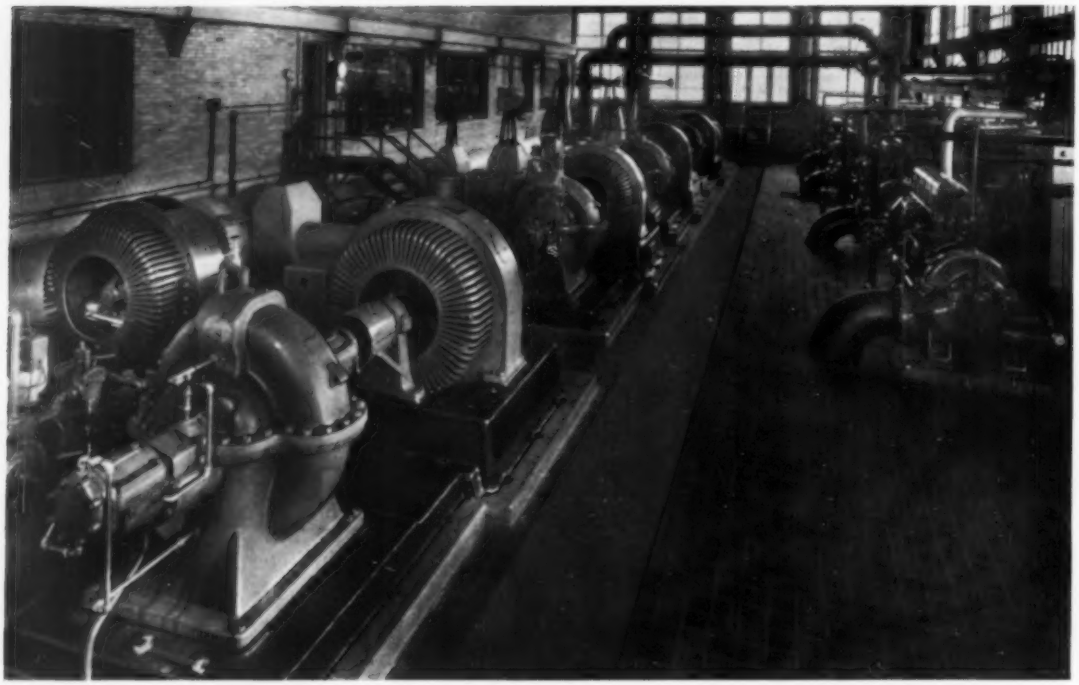
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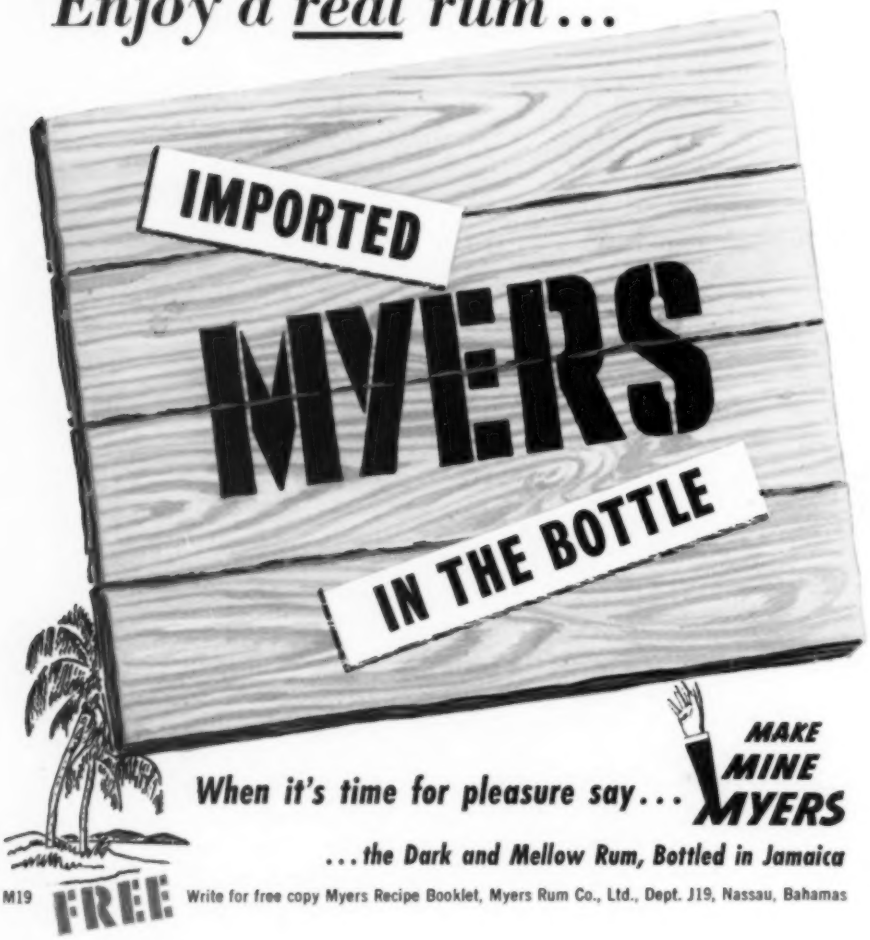
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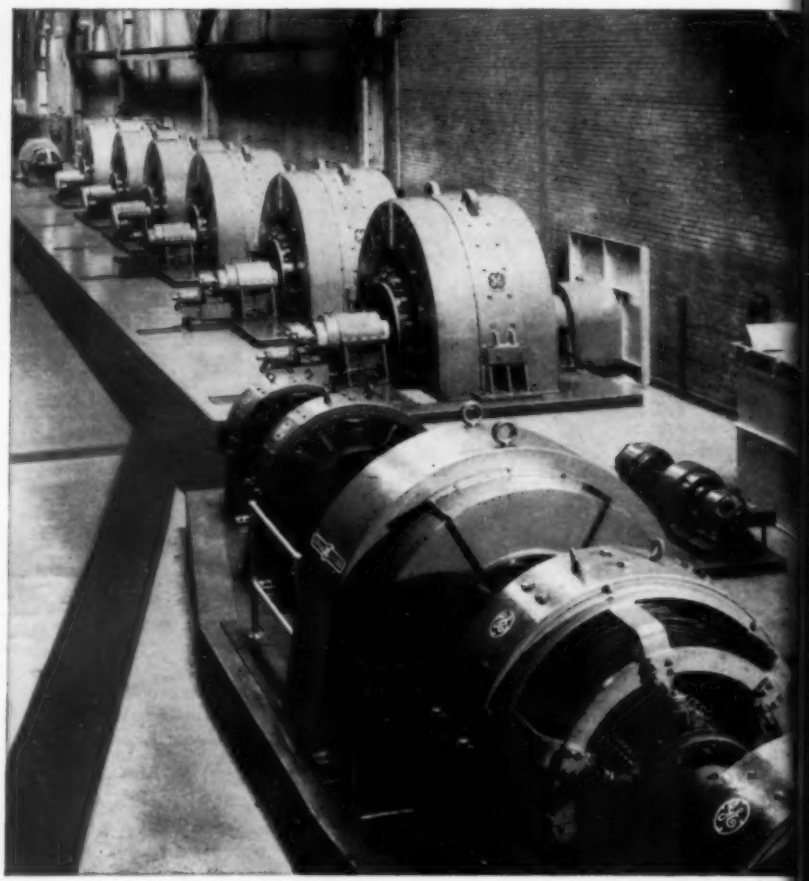
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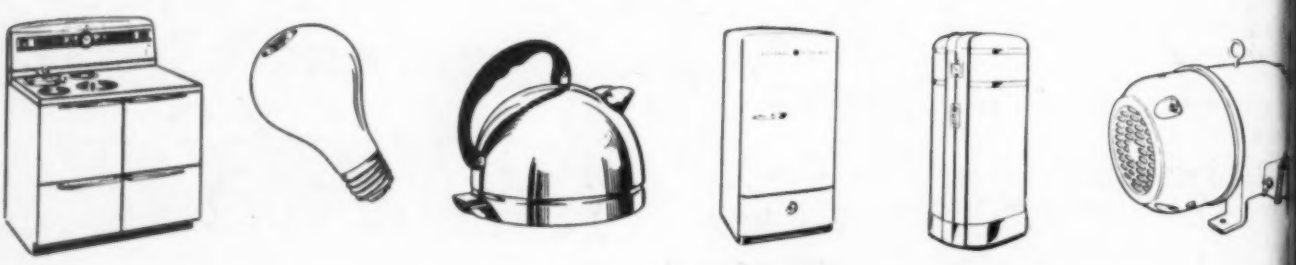


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